MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MAY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--Damascus radio reported this morning that Israel has moved troops northward from the Jordan Valley toward its borders with Syria and Lebanon. The radio also cited other reports that Israeli troops have been moved to the north from the Sinai and southern Israel. According to the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ, Saudi Arabia has placed its army units in the Tabuk area, near the Saudi-Jordanian border, on alert as a signal that it would support Syria if Israel started a war. In Lebanon artillery exchanges between eastern and western Beirut continued throughout the afternoon and evening of 18 May, Beirut radio reported. The shelling eased later, the radio said, and the capital was calm early this morning. The radio reported that 29 people were killed and 142 injured in the day's shelling. Voice of Lebanon radio said shells also hit Christian-held coastal areas north of Beirut, including Juniyah. Clandestine Voice of Palestine radio accused the Phalangists and their Lebanese Army allies of having resumed the shelling and said they were using phosporous incendiary bombs, causing heavy casualties. An official Palestinian statement, broadcast by the radio, said the Palestinians in and around western Beirut will not return this fire. The radio also reported more Israeli shelling and overflights in the south.

Warships Near Lebanon--Voice of Lebanon reported the presence of eight warships off the Lebanese coast during the afternoon and said one ship was sailing toward Sidon. Jerusalem radio said the Soviet flotilla continued to cruise in the eastern Mediterranean, between Cyprus and the Syrian coast, while AFP reported that a French flotilla, including the aircraft carrier Clemenceau, is also in the area.

Habib Mission--Damascus television tersely reported U.S. Special Envoy Philip Habib's arrival in Damascus from Riyadh. According to AFP, the Damascus daily AL-BA'TH reproted that Syria has rejected the proposals made by Habib but wants to know U.S. intentions without necessarily giving its approval to the solutions proposed. In a report on Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt's interview with the Lebanese weekly MONDAY morning, Voice of Palestine radio noted that the National Movement has rejected Habib's proposal of sending the Lebanese Army to the Zahlah and Sannin heights. The radio quoted Junblatt as saying that the United States thinks the situation in the Sannin heights has upset the balance. According to Junblatt, Habib's role as negotiator rather than mediator has been confirmed by the specific and definite conditions he attaches to certain subjects and his insistence on limiting the talks to the situation in Zahlah and the surrounding heights.

Support for Syria--Damascus radio reported that Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm told the Syrian Cabinet, meeting on 18 May, that Syria has the support of the Arab masses and the communist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, in its confrontation with Israel over Lebanon. According to Damascus radio reports, Syria has received expressions of support from Qatar, the UAE, Morocco and Tunisia. Damascus television also reported that in a meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared Iran's support for Syria's stand.

Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting--QNA reported that the Arab League General Secretariat has scheduled an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers on 22 May to examine the situation in the Middle East.

Begin Remarks--According to IDF radio, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin told correspondents after a meeting of the Knesset's Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee that Saudi Arabia is incapable of playing any useful role in moderating Syria's stance on the Lebanese missile crisis and is one of the most corrupt states in the world. A radio correspondent cited Begin as saying that Saudi Arabia is weak and may collapse any day. He said he cannot understand how one can treat Saudi Arabia as a moderate element when it has declared a holy war against Israel.

Saudi Arabia

Support for Lebanon--According to Riyadh radio, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz explained the situation in the Arab world to the Council of Ministers and stressed that Saudi Arabia condemns any Israeli aggression that encroaches upon the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon and supports the legitimate authority in Lebanon.

Base Talks Denied--In an interview with AL-JAZIRAH, cited by SPA, Defense Minister Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz denied that Saudi Arabia has discussed granting the United States military facilities or bases. According to SPA, the minister also asserted that the United States would proceed with its commitments to meet the kingdom's military needs.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

According to INA, the Iranian military force that attempted to attack the Iraqi forces besieging Abadan has been defeated. Baghdad radio reported the Iraqi Armed Forces are continuing to pound Abadan with heavy weapons, while INA claimed that Iraqi gound defenses shot down two Iranian Phantoms and three helicopters. Tehran radio, meanwhile, maintained that the Abadan battle is continuing. In a commentary on the inaccuracy of Iranian military reports, Baghdad radio's Azeri service said Iraq's military communiques are noted for their careful reportage of developments, while the Iranian General Staff communiques are meant to mislead the public and are devoid of truth. The radio said Iraqi troops have occupied more Iranian territory following recent clashes in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab; and it claimed that Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has lied about the true extent of Iranian losses.

Kurdish Affairs

The clandestine Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio reported an 11 May attack by Kurdish Democratic Party peshmerga against the Urumiyeh garrison. According to the radio, considerable damage was inflicted, but the number of dead and injured is unknown. According to the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio, Kurdish combatants thwarted an attack by revolution guards on the Uramanat Heights. The radio said the Kurds are intensifying their attacks in light of the indifference exhibited by the Khomeyni regime to their proposal for talks. The clandestine Radio Iran reported on a clash in Kordestan between Kurdish peshmerga and Khomeyni guards in which three "Afghan mercenaries" were slain. According to the clandestine Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan, the Iraqi Democratic National Front committee in Mosul and Dahuk recently met and decided to escalate armed and political struggle against the Saddam Husayn regime. The committee includes Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party and Communist Party members, the radio said.

Iran

In an interview published in the 15 May Paris daily LE MATIN, Iranian President Bani-Sadr admitted that there is no longer any law in Iran and that people are arrested and tortured as they were under previous regimes. He also said the United States is doing all it can to prevent the purchase of Iranian oil. Questioned on the strength of the Tudeh Party, Bani-Sadr said it has lost the popular support it enjoyed before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 096 *19 May 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

VOP Reports Habib's 18 May Arrival in Damascus A 1
PLO Calls for Arab League Meeting; League Responds A 1
Official Request [VOP] A 1
Meeting Scheduled for 22 May A 1
Qaddumi Interviewed on Unity Efforts, Other Issues [VOP] A 1
VOP Commentary Urges Arab Unity Against Challenges A 6
VOP Analyzes Walid Junblatt's Magazine Interview A 7
Abu Jihad Confers With Algerian, Cuban Envoys [VOP] A 8

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

King Husayn Visits for Talks, Departs 18 May C 1

KUWAIT

King Husayn Holds Talks During Short Visit C 1
Arrival Report C 1
Talks, Departure C 1
Foreign Minister Sends Message to Gromyko C 2

QATAR

King Husayn Visits During Gulf Area Tour C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Council of Ministers Condemns Israeli 'Aggression' C 2
King Khalid Holds Talks With King Husayn C 3
Arrival Report C 3
17 May Talks C 3
U.S. Said Committed To Meet Military Needs C 3
Tariq 'Aziz Gives King Message From Saddam Husayn C 4

UAE

President Calls on U.S. To Pressure Israel C 4
AL-ITTIHAD Calls U.S. Mideast Policy 'Upside Down' C 4
Editorial Sees Begin as Threat to World Peace C 5
[AL-ITTIHAD 13 May]

PDRY

PDRY Leader Arrives in Delhi, Welcomed by Gandhi C 5
[cross-reference]

EGYPT

Ghali Comments on UN Contacts, Sinai Force D 1
As-Sadat Makes Speeches in Alexandria 16, 17 May D 1
Speech at University D 1
Speech to Lawyers D 3
Islamic, Arab League Supports Jerusalem Liberation D 6
ASH-SHA'B Criticizes Building of Ra's Banas Base [5 May] D 6
Weekly Reports Plans for New Opposition Party D 7
AL-AHRAM Reports Two Sabotage Attempts Foiled D 7

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communique 340 E 1
Defeat of Iranian Force at Abadan Reported E 1
Siege Said To Be Tightening E 2
King Husayn Holds Talks With Saddam Husayn E 2
Reception on Arrival E 2
First Session of Talks E 2
Second Session of Talks E 3
Departure for Saudi Arabia E 3

JORDAN

Minister Vows No 'Zionist Aggression' Via Jordan F 1
Papers View Developments on Lebanon Situation F 1
Crown Prince Hasan Attends Tactical Exercise F 2

LEBANON

Al-Wazzan, Al-As'ad Meet, Make Statements G 1
Sham'un Interviewed on Lebanese Situation G 2
Infantry, Armor Reinforces Army in South G 6
VOL Reports Syrian Clashes With Iraqis, Others G 6
Al-Asad Reported To Have Visited Moscow 15 May G 6
Bashir Al-Jumayyil's Departure From Lebanon Denied G 6

SYRIA

Habib's 18 May Return to Damascus Reported H 1
Prime Minister Reviews Developments With Cabinet H 1
Israeli Acts, Not Missiles, Subject To Discussion H 1
AS-SAFIR Cited on Israeli Radar on Sannin Peak H 2
Damascus Commentary Reiterates Steadfastness H 3
Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Ba'th Official H 4
Al-Ahmar Receives Palestine Council Speaker H 4
Algerian Envoy Conveys Message to Al-Asad, Departs H 4
Moroccan Envoy Delivers Message to Al-Asad H 5
Iran's Hashemi-Rafsanjani Visits, Holds Talks H 5
Arrival Statement H 5
Al-Asad Meeting H 5
Khaddam Talks H 6
Damascus Notes UAE Expression of Support H 6
Kuwaiti Amir Telephones Support to Al-Asad H 6

ISRAEL

Begin on Habib Mission, Saudi Role, Soviet Fleet I 1
Further Report I 1
More Syrian Missiles Reportedly in Lebanon I 2
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 18 May]

HA'ARETZ: Saudis on Alert Near Jordanian Border [19 May] I 2
Eyewitnesses Report Libyan Soldiers in Beirut [POST 19 May] I 3
Sterner, Kimche Discuss Sinai Force 18 May I 3
MA'ARIV: Difficulties in Talks [19 May] I 3
Poll Sees Inflation as Likud's Main Failing I 4
[HA'ARETZ 18 May]
Knesset Approves New Name for Political Faction I 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Algeria Asks for Urgent Arab League Meeting Q 1

LIBYA

People's Bureau Relations With U.S. Explained Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Hosts Banquet for OAU Chairman Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks on Palestine Usurpation Day Q 3
Army Chief Receives Lebanese Ba'th, PLO Officials Q 8

WESTERN SAHARA

Abdelaziz Sends Message to UN Secretary General Q 8

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

FLN Delegation Received by President Mengistu R 1

KENYA

Nairobi Students Expelled; University Closed R 1
Indefinite Closure R 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Limann Invites British To Step Up Investment T 1

IVORY COAST

74-Billion-CFA-Franc-Loan Accord Signed With IMF T 1

LIBERIA

Accra Cites Doe Statement on Libya, USSR Embassies T 2
USSR Embassy Says No Word on Reduction Received T 2
Weh Syen Warns Advisers Against Giving Bad Advice T 2
Commander Warns Officials Against Personal Ambition T 2

MALI

IDA Grants Loan To Estimate Oil Potential T 3

NIGERIA

Soldiers Killed by Cameroonian Troops on Border T 3
Students Protest Against U.S. Policy 14 May T 4
Commentary Denounces Oil Supplies to South Africa T 4
NLC May Resume Strike Unless Assembly Acts T 6
Kano Police Seize Consignment of Weapons T 6
Briefs: Training Ship From Japan T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Reports On U.S. Meetings U 1
Johannesburg Praises Pretoria-Washington Relations U 1

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Calls For Closer Ties With Saudi Arabia U 2

ZIMBABWE

Senate Approves Lancaster House Accord Amendments U 2

VOP REPORTS HABIB'S 18 MAY ARRIVAL IN DAMASCUS

JN181526 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1505 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] U.S. Envoy Philip Habib arrived in Damascus this afternoon following 2 days of talks with the Saudi leaders. Some reports say that Habib might leave for Beirut today and then go to occupied Palestine tomorrow within the framework of his shuttle tour which continues to revolve in a vicious circle after Damascus rejected the solutions pertaining to the missile crisis, considering that the cause of the current crisis and that of the Middle East crisis is not the positioning of the Syrian missiles or the presence of the deterrent forces in the Sannin heights but the Zionist aggression against Lebanon.

PLO CALLS FOR ARAB LEAGUE MEETING; LEAGUE RESPONDS

Official Request

NC190726 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] The PLO has officially called for the convocation of an Arab League Council emergency session at the level of foreign ministers. The call came in a telegram sent by Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. In the telegram Abu 'Ammar, on behalf of the PLO, asked the Arab League Council to convene a meeting at the foreign minister level in order to fix a unified and collective Arab position on the Zionist threats of aggression against the PLO and Syria and on the war of extermination that the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples are being exposed to.

Meeting Scheduled for 22 May

JN182007 Doha QNA in Arabic 1958 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Tunis, 18 May (QNA)--The QNA correspondent in Tunis has learned that the Arab League General Secretariat has fixed next Friday for convening the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers to study the situation in the Middle East resulting from the Israeli provocations and to deal with the situation on all levels. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi this evening issued urgent messages to the Arab foreign ministers to participate in this meeting which was called for by Algeria and the PLO.

QADDUMI INTERVIEWED ON UNITY EFFORTS, OTHER ISSUES

JN161940 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 16 May 81

[Interview granted to Voice of Palestine by Faruq Qaddumi--identified by his nom de guerre of Abu al-Lutf--head of the PLO Political Department; recorded--date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Brothers: There are successive developments and events on our Arab arena, particularly with regard to the Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese side. Brother Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department, must have his evaluation of these events and developments as well as [words indistinct]. It seems, at least through analysis, that the current situation is capable of exploding. It is capable of exploding on two levels. The first is on the Syrian-Israeli level, and of course the Palestinian factor is present in the heart of this collision. The second is that the explosion may be confined within its traditional Israeli-Palestinian course, as it happened in March 1978. Brother Abu al-Lutf, what is your evaluation of the situation in light of these possibilities?

[Answer] The escalation of the Arab-Israeli struggle and the fabrication of a new crisis in the Middle East region further threatens world peace. This is due to the aggressive Israeli escalation against southern Lebanon, the Palestinian people and the Lebanese people. Israel's crimes went so far that they included raiding houses and places where the Palestinian refugees live and in Lebanese villages. The United States has enlightened us in another way through the statements made by White House spokesman Richard Allen, who earlier supported Israel's [words indistinct] the fedayeen in southern Lebanon. Terrorist Begin feels a desire to shed more blood and annihilate the Palestinian people. The United States and Israel are directly responsible for these nazi and fascist crimes and the escalation of the crisis in Lebanon. If there is a possibility [words indistinct]--and this possibility is likely--it is because of the United States, which began to adopt a hostile Zionist policy in many parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East region, in order to encourage Israel to escalate its crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. This is the reason for this crisis and all this remains [words indistinct].

To say that there is a crisis, namely, the missile crisis, is in fact a wrong [word indistinct]. The presence of the Syrian missiles in Al-Biqa' is part of protecting the Syrian forces in the region--forces which are part of the Arab Deterrent Forces. They are the forces of legitimacy in Lebanon. These forces have entered with the approval of the Lebanese Front, in addition to the approval of the president of the republic. This means that the ones who asked for the presence of these forces are the Lebanese Front and the president of the republic. They are thus legitimate. It follows that this legitimacy, to which the United States did not voice objection at that time, has the right to protect its forces with all means [words indistinct] in Lebanon.

The picture, however, has been turned upside down. The United States, and Israel, which speaks and works in its name, began to draw another red line in the heart of Lebanon. This is contrary to all international norms [words indistinct] against Zionism [passage indistinct] and the hostile aggressive policy of the United States as adopted by the new administration under Reagan. This is [words indistinct]. As for the other forms of this crisis, they are--as I said--details. Through this crisis, the United States and Israel want to cover up their aggression, hegemony and attempts to increase the presence of the invading U.S. forces in the area and in the Gulf region.

It is impossible to say that this will lead to a political settlement. Those who say so are actually trying to delude Arab, Lebanese and world public opinion that this might constitute an opening and thus it is necessary to make concessions and to endure such aggression because all this would constitute an opening for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. The truth is that there is no opening because this is part of the U.S. policy, which is employed to resist the friendly Soviet presence, particularly in this region. [Words indistinct] the Soviet Union's policy in defense of the Palestinian revolution and to support fraternal Syria so the Palestinian revolution and Syria can defend their existence, security and rights.

When Mr Haig came to the region and held talks in Jordan and in Saudi Arabia, he gave prominance to two main points: 1) Priority should be given to facing the Soviet threat. There is no doubt that the answer to this point is that the so-called Soviet threat constitutes no danger, but that the danger is Israeli existence and aggression, which jeopardizes Arab vital interests. This is a new policy which Haig is adopting. Haig is now saying that stability comes before security. This means that the solving of the Palestinian cause comes last, because there are more urgent issues such as the Soviet threat, the issue of Chad, the issue of Afghanistan, the issue of the Horn of Africa and the issue of the Lebanese crisis and, after all that, comes the issue of the Palestinian cause, which is actually the essential cause.

Then there is [words indistinct] and this should be faced by the Arab nation with firmness and insistence. The Arab nation's forces should also stand by the side of all the progressive forces in the world and our friends in the socialist bloc against this aggressive and extremist policy which is led by the United States and Israel in the Middle East and in other areas of the world.

[Question] Then you certainly agree that the root of the problem here, which may explode in one way or another in Lebanon or in any other place, is the Palestinian problem, and that the attempts to avoid giving prominence to this problem will certainly fail, due to the current developments and to the stand of the Arab [word indistinct] forces in this part of the homeland. Brother Abu al-Lutf, despite the heat of the situation in this region, we may still ask a question about other subjects, such as the result of the French presidential elections and the victory of Mitterand, the fierce Israeli campaign against FRG Chancellor Schmidt and against Germany as a whole, Van der Klaauw's tour and finally the statement of the British foreign secretary, who is getting ready to assume the chairmanship of the EEC Ministerial Council in the near future. So if we try to summarize the question, we say: What is your present view of the European stand in light of Carrington's statements, the French elections and Van der Klaauw's recent visit to the region, during which he met with Palestinian figures in the occupied land?

[Answer] We have to take into consideration that state interests, particularly energy interests, are the basic factors which govern the British, French, German and European policy as a whole in the Middle East. Moreover, the issue of security in these states is linked with the security of the Middle East. They realize that energy is a basic factor and that the Arabs can put embarrassing pressure on them that may harm the Europeans' interests, especially in the field of energy.

France can never apply a radical change in its policy toward the Arabs and toward the Palestinian cause, regardless of who is in office, Giscard d'Estaing or Mitterand, although the latter is a member of the Socialist International and he has made several pro-Israeli statements. Mitterrand will definitely face [words indistinct] and he would have to make a choice.

As for West Germany, it has interests in this region. As I said before, this state was milked of billions of dollars by Israel as compensation.

The world rejects this Israeli haughtiness with which Begin and his government speak. There was a reaction out of hurt dignity from these states in the first place. No doubt, this was coupled with the vital interests which these states do not want to lose in the Middle East.

We want this stand to crystallize to form a better one in the end, but we do not want that to happen through a war of statements among various sides, after which reconciliation takes place between these states and Israel. Undoubtedly, it is time Europe took a clear stand on the Palestinian issue by recognizing our right to return, establish an independent Palestinian state and determine our destiny.

During the debate between Mitterrand and Giscard d'Estaing on French television, we heard that Giscard had denied that he referred to a Palestinian state. Indeed, we see that the French stand has frozen at a certain limit. Will Mitterrand be able to take this stand forward? We shall see. We will wait and see the results. We will not judge Mitterrand despite his unfriendly statements on [word indistinct]. Thus, we are facing a period of waiting [words indistinct] and in relation to the pressure because the United States is trying to pressure these states in order to maintain their policy, which supports and backs Israel. There is a conflict of interests, though not on a wide scale, between these states and the United States.

There is also the friendly USSR that supports Arab issues and the Palestinian question. They [the Europeans] see that the Arabs praise Soviet support. The Europeans are afraid that the Soviet presence in the region may rival their own interests in this region.

Therefore, the European states are trying to absorb such a grudge and to prevent the states in this region from further strengthening their relations with the Soviet Union. We are fully aware of this and, hence, we are proceeding to bolster our friendship with the socialist bloc, particularly with the Soviet Union, because this is a basic factor that will strengthen our struggle not only in the region but the world wide struggle against imperialism, Zionism, colonialism and racism.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, the second part of the question on the European subject is that British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who will assume the presidency of the EEC Ministerial Council, some days ago said: The PLO is the only party which represents the Palestinian people, whether we like it or not. This took place at the same time that Van der Klaauw was meeting with Palestinian personalities inside the occupied land. Reports indicate that these personalities agreed on stressing their adherence to the PLO and the independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO. We must ask ourselves how we may expect Carrington's statement, in addition to the facts Van der Klaauw witnessed, to lead to a more palpable stand in the European stand, particularly because Britain's presidency of the EEC will give an exceptional importance to the European role.

[Answer] First, as is well known, we must call for a political movement among the European states. This is not seeking a settlement [word indistinct]. We discussed that in the National Council with all frankness and [word indistinct]. Therefore, the political movement is completely different from working for a settlement, particularly because this period of time does not lend itself to a settlement, and because it will be at the expense of the interests of the Palestinian and Arab people. [sentence indistinct] We only limit our political movement on an individual or collective basis in order to advance the people's stand to the better. We welcome what Carrington said, that the PLO is the only representative of the Palestinian people and that he will meet with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] when he assumes the presidency of the EEC. This is a positive sign which we must admit. But at the same time, we understand that the European stand is that of (?agreement) because it is the result of the stands of the 10 states; they became 10 when Greece joined. It is also a must that the (?negative) stand of Denmark, the Netherlands and the other European states of the EEC be coordinated.

Therefore, we can say that we are pushing these stands forward, and we ask these big countries in Europe to take more advanced stands toward the Palestinian cause because this will contribute toward establishing peace in the region and will doubtless protect their interests. At the same time, we can discuss possible eruption of a new war, which we would push outside the framework of time so that peace may prevail on the basis of the national rights of the Palestinian people. [as heard]

Van der Klaauw came, and we met with him. We offered him the bases which the PLO will accept, as I said: return the right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. We also said that the Venice declaration had neglected the PLO and the national rights expressing return and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The declaration referred to Resolution 242. This is a negative reference, keeping in mind that the Soviet initiative has transcended 242 and formulated the realization of the national rights of the Palestinian people as a basis. We told him that there is an initiative which has a higher [word indistinct] than the [word indistinct] offered by the proposals and points appearing in the Venice declaration. During his meeting with our brothers inside the occupied land, it was clear that he received the same answer because the stand of our people and brothers inside the occupied land in support of the PLO is well known and does not need a meeting. He heard the same thing that we said here. However, the European countries must really reconsider their stands in order to take a more advanced stand on the Middle East.

[Question] It is clear from this that the Palestinian move to develop the European stand continues, but judging the results remains governed by future developments. This, of course, is one of the basics of Palestinian action, since we move not to ask for a settlement, as Brother Abu al-Lutf said, but to develop stands in support of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

[Answer] That is correct.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, over the past few days, you have undertaken a diplomatic effort through the good offices and nonaligned committees in a new attempt to solve the Iraqi-Iranian problem. Is there anything that calls for optimism on the possibility of arriving at a solution, or at least the possibility of both sides accepting a solution which will put an end to this regrettable war between the two countries?

[Answer] The PLO is trying its utmost efforts to arrive at common denominators to end this war, because its continuation does not serve anyone: It does not serve either the Iraqi or the Iranian peoples, nor does it serve the Palestinian cause and the peoples of the area. There are the efforts undertaken by the Islamic committee, and the efforts of the good offices committee formed by the nonaligned countries.

We made tours recently in which we visited Tehran and Baghdad. We felt a great deal of positiveness to help us search for solutions which would be acceptable to both sides as a basis for a plan to be formulated in the future, in the hope that the two sides would implement a cease-fire, withdraw to their positions and respectively obtain their rights.

We have submitted some ideas. Iran and Iraq have responded to them. We are working on developing such ideas in order to reach a joint concept. We will submit them to the two disputing sides. May God render our good efforts or offices successful.

[Question] Back to the point with which we began, but in another formula: The PLO is undertaking an Arab action at present for the sake of backing Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces in the confrontation against the U.S.-backed Zionist enemy. What is the scope of this move? Is there, for example, a call for an Arab conference on any level? Are there chances for this? What are the pillars and scopes of this move?

[Answer] Brother Abu 'Ammar embarked on expanded tours of the Arab Gulf states, European states, Iraq and Arab states in North Africa. The objective of those tours is to achieve a unified Arab stand that leads to unified Arab action and then to agree on the means by which we can attain this stand and this unified Arab action, particularly since the Israeli attacks and human loss suffered by the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples are escalating day after day due to this criminal fascist and racist onslaught undertaken by Israel against our Lebanese and Palestinian Arab peoples in Lebanon. Moreover, Israel has escalated its attacks against the Arab Deterrent Forces with the aim of [words indistinct].

These provocative Israeli acts must be faced by a unified and joint Arab action. It is not enough at all that the Arab nation remains silent or says some words [words indistinct]. Due to the gravity of the situation, it is time the Arab nation adopted practical measures to deter the Israeli enemy and the U.S. forces in the region, so that the United States will know that its policy is not only [words indistinct], but also that it will be confronted by practical resistance by the Arab nation with all its countries. Brother Abu 'Ammar was successful in his tours and in his consultations with all the Arab leaders and we hope that we will be able to accomplish the aspired-for results, particularly as we pass through this acute era. Let us wait and see this accomplished. The Arab nation has to achieve its unity of stand and action.

[Interviewer] Thank you, Brother Abu al-Lutf.

VOP COMMENTARY URGES ARAB UNITY AGAINST CHALLENGES

JN182130 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 18 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Syria, Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese steadfastness should depend on a strong Arab backing so it can continue and further develop to the extent of achieving the power which is capable of imposing the Arab nation's will and restoring the usurped Arab rights. This constitutes the main features of the Fatah Central Committee statement. These features represent a comprehensive and deep summary of the Arab masses' ambitions, these masses who are following up with close concern the developments in our Palestinian-Syrian-nationalist Lebanese arena and are cautiously observing the various possibilities of the situation and foremost the possibility of the eruption of a new round of armed struggle on the northern front.

The Syrian-Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese steadfastness, now leading one of the most important fateful battles, should not be viewed from the Arab point of view as a steadfastness in the face of a certain crisis or as a spontaneous reaction to a Zionist provocation. This steadfastness should be viewed as a real base for a wider Arab steadfastness in the face of the Zionist-imperialist-As-Sadat conspiracies which do not spare anyone in our Arab area and whose harm is not restricted to a certain Arab state.

If this issue is viewed from a comprehensive and rather responsible pan-Arab view then the present Arab effort, which is being expressed by nationwide solidarity with the Palestinian revolution, Syria and Lebanon, will develop into more specific forms that will ensure political, economic and military capabilities for the confrontation vanguards, a thing that should not only be directed at surmounting the present situation and the accompanying Israeli challenges, but also at securing all the necessary capabilities for the steadfastness members, whose vanguards are represented in the Palestinian revolution, Syria and the nationalist Lebanese forces, so they can carry out their greater national objectives of restoring Arab and Palestinian rights and ending the Zionist belligerency, which depends on unlimited U.S. aid.

The Americans and the Zionists have become accustomed to not having their blatant challenges of the Arab nation faced by a comprehensive, strong and continued Arab stand. Therefore, their challenge and aggression continue and their disregard of the Arab nation and of its just central cause continues as well.

The Americans and the Zionists, and lately their foster son As-Sadat, have been accustomed to the fact that the Arabs get involved with marginal issues that sap their efforts and drag them into a position where they become incapable of confronting the Zionist enemy and his allies in the major struggle of the Arab nation.

We therefore share the Arab masses' belief that it is high time to achieve a unified Arab stand to face the major challenge which is represented in the Zionist-U.S.-As-Sadat challenge. It is high time to direct the Arab efforts toward the correct path so we can have one main confrontation with the Zionist enemy, the occupier of the land, the usurper of the rights and the danger which is threatening the entire Arab future. It is no longer acceptable or allowed that any Arab side neglect its national responsibilities, particularly since patience is almost spent and since the Zionist-U.S. challenge has reached its peak.

We brothers, when we unite our stands in the face of the joint enemy, and when we rally around the nation's confrontation vanguards in Syria, Palestine and Lebanon, will not only be able to surmount a crisis which is forced on us, but will also be able to move forward toward wider spheres which will allow us to place the Arab-Zionist struggle into its real course once more and to impose our Arab will on the battlefront so we can create a new status quo to restore all the usurped rights and to end a period of darkness that has lasted for too long.

VOP ANALYZES WALID JUNBLATT'S MAGAZINE INTERVIEW

JN181855 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1555 GMT 18 May 81

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] One of the topics we will review and analyze in today's "With the Events" program is Brother Walid Junblatt's interview with Beirut MONDAY MORNING in which he outlined in detail the National Movement's stand on the current crisis:

Despite the fact that, at the beginning of Philip Habib's tour, the U.S. administration claimed that its envoy was not bringing any plans to settle the current tense situation in the region and that he would only offer advice and ideas, everyone who has talked to Habib asserts that he came to the region carrying a U.S. project that had been accepted by Israel and its agents in Lebanon. Some even said that Philip Habib is a mere negotiator who is conveying the U.S.-Israeli conditions, to which are appended threats of military action, or conditions that [words indistinct] the big stick of threats. The conditions say: Either you withdraw the missiles and restore the situation to what it was before the beginning of April or you will pay the price for not doing so. [Words indistinct] concessions to begin, perhaps in the south under the pretext of restoring the balance, or Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement will pay their heads as the price in an Israeli aggression which has already been planned.

On the U.S. negotiator's meeting with the Lebanese National Movement's delegation, Brother Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Central Political Council, said: In his talks with the National Movement, Philip Habib stressed the importance of sending the army to Zahlah and Sannin peaks. The National Movement, however, rejected this proposal because the stationing of the army in that region would provide the rightist militias witha safety belt.

Junblatt said that he had affirmed to Philip Habib his rejection of sending the Lebanese Army to Sannin or anywhere else. He pointed out that the National Movement had informed Habib that the sole acceptable solution to the Al-Biqa' crisis lay in withdrawing the recruited aliens in the militias from Zahlah, removing the military fortifications in Sannin and demilitarizing the region. Brother Junblatt added: The National Movement believes that the solution lies in not using the army before achieving Lebanese national accord and in linking the legitimate armed forces with Syria through a security agreement. Only then can all the Syrian forces operating with the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] be withdrawn from Lebanon and security be entrusted to the Lebanese army.

Junblatt said: The Americans think that the situation in the Sannin peaks has upset the balance. They also believe that this situation poses a threat to Israel's security and puts Juniyah and specific installations in the eastern region within the range of the Syrian artillery. Junblatt denied this U.S. claim by saying: The Sannin peaks do not pose a threat to Israel's security or to Juniyah or to the eastern region, since these areas can be shelled from the heights of Duhur ash-Shuwayr or from the western sector of Beirut. He pointed out that the U.S. intention in evacuating the ADF from Sannin is to safeguard a specific political balance which the Americans want to maintain.

What confirms the fact that Habib is a negotiator and not a mediator are the specific and definite conditions that he is bringing regarding certain subjects only. Brother Junblatt pointed out that the U.S. envoy refused to discuss the issue of Lebanese national accord and other subjects that the National Movement considers to be decisive. He insisted on limiting the talks to the situation in Zahlah and the peaks around it.

Brother Junblatt accused the Lebanese authorities of bias. He accused the Lebanese ambassador to the United States of collaborating on a political level with Israel and its friends and agents. Brother Junblatt said: This ambassador used his powers to peddle the project of the isolationist ministers and the president of the republic regarding the use of the army in Sannin. Furthermore, the working paper sent by the government to Syria, as part of the efforts made to achieve accord, was a Phalangist working paper. Therefore, the authorities have been transformed into an obstacle to accord. He said that these authorities want accord of all the nationalists, the Palestinian issue and political reform.

On the situation inside the isolationist ghetto, Brother Junblatt said: The end of Bashir al-Jumayyil's control over the Lebanese Front and its [words indistinct] is not far off. However, the Israeli-isolationist links are extremely strong. If a Syrian-Israeli confrontation battle would occur, the Phalangists would back Israel and try to regain some of the positions they have lost.

Concluding his remarks on the situation in Lebanon, Brother Walid Junblatt said: The ADF forces' mandate should be renewed. He welcomed any Arab initiative that takes into account the active forces in Lebanon, which include the Lebanese National Movement, the Palestinian revolution and Syria.

ABU JIHAD CONFERS WITH ALGERIAN, CUBAN ENVOYS

NC160750 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Brother Abu Jihan [Khalil al-Wazzir], Fatah Central Committee member and deputy to brother the commander of chief of the Al-'Asifah forces, has received the Algerian ambassador in Beirut and the Cuban charge d'affaires there. They exchanged views on ways to strengthen relations between the Palestinian revolution and Algeria and Cuba.

Abu Jihad, the Algerian ambassador and the Cuban charge d'affaires reviewed the situation in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas. Abu Jihad concentrated on the hysterical campaign being launched by Menahem Begin against the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland. He stressed our people's determination to confront all Zionist plans in order to achieve their legitimate rights.

Abu Jihad also received a delegation of Vietnamese writers and journalists currently visiting the Palestinian revolution at the invitation of the Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists. During the meeting they reviewed the historical relations between the Palestinian and Vietnamese revolutions. Abu Jihad stressed that the Palestinian revolution believes in the goal of struggle handed down to it by the Vietnamese revolution. He said: We will continue our struggle and confrontation against the same enemy who Vietnam confronted.

BAHRAIN

KING HUSAYN VISITS FOR TALKS, DEPARTS 18 MAY

GF181604 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpts] The amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, received His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on his arrival at 1700 today from Kuwait for a short visit to Bahrain in the course of his majesty's tour of Arab Gulf countries. He will hold talks with the amir on bilateral relations, current Gulf and Arab developments, and issues of mutual interest.

An official session of talks was held at Al-Qudaybiyah Palace at 1530. The Bahraini side was led by the amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and the Jordanian side was led by His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal. The meeting was attended on the Bahraini side by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, the foreign minister ; Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, development and industry minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, the interior minister; and Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid, minister of state for Cabinet affairs. Attending on the Jordanian side were Mudar Badran, the prime minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Court; 'Amir Khammash, minister of court; Marwan al-Qasim, foreign minister; and Salih al-Kabariti, the Jordanian ambassador.

[Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 18 May adds: "The two leaders reviewed issues of mutual interest, and particularly Arab developments. GULF NEWS AGENCY has learned that the Jordanian monarch welcomed the Gulf summit conference which will be held on 25 May.

["The views of the two sides were identical on pan-Arab issues, particularly current developments in the Palestinian question, confrontation of the Zionist enemy and threats facing the Arab nation. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the positive and constructive results achieved during the discussions--results that serve the Arab nation and its causes.

["His highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, bade farewell to his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on his departure at 1915 today for Doha at the end of a short visit in the course of his tour of Gulf countries."]

KUWAIT

KING HUSAYN HOLDS TALKS DURING SHORT VISIT

Arrival Report

LD180956 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0933 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 May (KUNA)--King Husayn of Jordan arrived here today on a brief visit, the third stage of his present Gulf tour. He was welcomed at the airport by Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Talks, Departure

LD181406 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1347 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 May (KUNA)--King Husayn of Jordan has ended his brief visit to Kuwait today and left the country. He was seen off by Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah with whom he had talks.

An official Kuwaiti spokesman said that their talks covered the current Arab conditions and ways to strengthen the relations between Kuwait and Jordan. The spokesman added that the talks were held in "a fraternal cordial atmosphere governed by amity and understanding."

The king's visit to Kuwait lasted for a few hours only.

FOREIGN MINISTER SENDS MESSAGE TO GROMYKO

LD160838 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0724 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May (KUNA)--According to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA', Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent a message to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. The newspaper does not report the contents of the message but says that "it is believed the message deals with a number of issues that were raised during the foreign minister's visit to Moscow, as well as with current Arab and international developments." Shaykh as-Sabah visited Moscow last month and held talks with Gromyko on the Gulf, the Middle East, Lebanon and bilateral relations between the two countries.

QATAR

KING HUSAYN VISITS DURING GULF AREA TOUR

GF181753 Doha Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpts] His highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, was foremost among those who received His Majesty King Husayn of the fraternal Hashmite Kingdom of Jordan and the delegation accompanying him on his arrival at Doha international airport at about 200 today from Bahrain. He is on a 2-day visit to Qatar in the course of his current tour of countries of the area.

Official talks between his highness the amir and the guest began after the Jordanian Monarch's arrival at the guest palace. The talks were attended on the Qatari side by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; Shaykh ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; and 'Isa Ghanim al-Kawari, minister of information; and on the Jordanian side by the official delegation accompanying the Jordanian sovereign.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the talks dealt with the current Arab and international situation, and particularly the Middle East crisis.

SAUDI ARABIA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONDEMNS ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

LD182258 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met tonight under the chairmanship of Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting lasted nearly 2 hours. Minister of Communications and Acting Information Minister Shaykh Husayn al-Mansuri told SPA after the meeting that His Royal Highness Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz explained at the beginning of the meeting the situation in the Arab world. His royal highness stressed that the kingdom's attitude toward the events is firm and clear: The kingdom stands by its sister Arab countries, and it condemns any Israeli aggression that encroaches on the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon. His royal highness added that on his majesty's guidance the kingdom reaffirms its eagerness to back and support the legitimate authority in Lebanon. [passage omitted on housing and promotions]

KING KHALID HOLDS TALKS WITH KING HUSAYN

Arrival Report

LD171508 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Riyadh, 17 May (SPA)--His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan arrived in Riyadh at 1700 today. He was welcomed at the airport by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard.

The king of Jordan is being accompanied by a delegation which includes Mudar Badran, prime minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, head of the Royal Court; 'Amir Khammash, minister of court; and Marwan al-Qasim, foreign minister.

17 May Talks

LD172039 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Official Saudi-Jordanian talks began at 2120 today at the royal palace at Al-Ma'dhar under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Khalid ibn Abd al-'Aziz and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Those who attended on the Saudi side were His Royal Highness Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation; His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; His Excellency Dr Rashad Fir'awn, his majesty's advisor; His Excellency Shaykh Hisham Nazir, minister of planning; and Shaykh Ibrahim as-Sultan, the kingdom's ambassador in Jordan. Those attending on the Jordan side were His Excellency Mudar Badran, the prime minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, head of the Royal Court; Amir Khammash, minister of the Royal Court; Marwan al-Qasim, foreign minister; and Tharvat at-Talhuni, the Jordanian ambassador to the kingdom.

The two sides reviewed the current situation in the region and the latest development in the Arab arena. They also reviewed issues of mutual interest and the fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 0855 GMT on 18 May adds: "King Husayn of Jordan left Riyadh at 1100 today at the end of his 1-day visit to the kingdom."]

U.S. SAID COMMITTED TO MEET MILITARY NEEDS

LD180836 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0735 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Riyadh, 18 May (SPA)--The United States has affirmed its support for and commitment to meeting the kingdom's military needs for the good of both friendly countries on a strong basis of mutual respect.

Announcing this in a statement to the Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH, published here today, Saudi Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that Assistant U.S. Secretary of Defense for Security Affairs Francis G. West assured him of this during his visit to the kingdom last week.

Prince Sultan denied Western media reports that the question of granting facilities to the United States in the kingdom was discussed during the visit. In this regard, Prince Sultan reiterated the kingdom's position of rejecting the establishment of any bases or granting any facilities to whatever quarter in whatever size.

Prince Sultan said that West's talks in the kingdom were intended for the exchanging of views with Saudi senior officials on military cooperation and Arab and international issues.

TARIQ 'AZIZ GIVES KING MESSAGE FROM SADDAM HUSAYN

LD161016 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0955 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Riyadh, 16 May (SPA)--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has received a verbal message from the president of Iraq, Saddam Husayn. The message was conveyed by Tariq 'Aziz, member of the Revolution Command Council and deputy prime minister of Iraq, who is currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia, during an audience with the king at noon today.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz heir apparent and deputy prime minister, His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation; and Dr Rashad Farwawn, his majesty's adviser.

The Iraqi official arrived in Riyadh this morning at the beginning of a tour to a number of Arab countries.

UAE

PRESIDENT CALLS ON U.S. TO PRESSURE ISRAEL

JN181044 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1025 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (GNA)--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nunayyan has called on the United States to put pressure on Israel and to work seriously for establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The UAE president said that the Israeli usurpation of Palestine and the recurrent Israeli aggressions against Lebanon pose a threat to peace and security in the entire world not only in the Gulf region.

This took place when the UAE president received departing U.S. Ambassador William D. Wolle today. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad and Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

AL-ITTIHAD CALLS U.S. MIDEAST POLICY 'UPSIDE DOWN'

JN181020 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0835 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (ENA)--In its editorial today AL-ITTIHAD said that Arab unanimity has begun to develop in support of Syria's pan-Arab stand and the role the Arab Deterrent Forces are assuming in Lebanon. The paper expressed satisfaction with this Arab support and called on Arab countries to transform it into Arab assistance and coordination for the pan-Arab battle so as to emerge from this battle with an Arab victory as took place in the October war.

The paper praised the UAE's support for Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people in their confrontation of the Zionist threats and the UAE's call on the United States to put pressure on the Israeli entity to halt its aggression.

The paper added that the U.S. envoy has come to the Middle East to give a picture of the upside down U.S. policy which is being practiced in agreement with the Zionist entity in favor of Israel and against the Arabs and to ask for the withdrawal from Lebanon of the Syrian missiles installed to protect the Palestinians and Lebanese from Israeli planes. The paper wonders why Washington had not sent an envoy to the victims of the Israeli planes a long time ago?

The paper concludes by warning that the enemy prime minister's claims that he is not seeking war are not true. A few days ago the enemy prime minister admitted that he suspended a 30 April attack on the Syrian missiles. He did not, however, say that he has cancelled the decision to attack. The paper says that the situation is serious and quick Arab initiatives are needed to confront the Israeli threats because Begin is a professional criminal whose prestige has been corroded. The criminal will take any step even if it is a foolhardy one.

EDITORIAL SEES BEGIN AS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE

LD151403 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 13 May 81 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] In all his actions Menahem Begin seeks to confirm the maxim in which he believes: "I fight, therefore I am." Begin has been launching wars in all directions and attacking many forces, states and personalities, imagining himself to be "the superior Zionist being."

Begin has launched a campaign of "vilification" against West German Chancellor Schmidt, Austrian Chancellor Kreisky and French President Giscard d'Estaing. At the same time he has been raising a hue and cry over what he terms the crisis of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon.

In the light of this crisis, which may trigger a major war at any moment, Begin has been issuing threats and warnings against supplying the Saudi Kingdom with AWACS planes, declaring that the Israeli Air Force is capable of shooting them down. He has also launched a campaign of "rebuke and censure" against the EEC envoy, saying very insolently and arrogantly that Israel does not want initiatives from Europe.

All these actions reveal the extent of Begin's conceit and hostility, as well as the extent of the threat he poses to peace and security in the Arab homeland and, indeed, worldwide. Some former and present Israeli leaders who are no less dangerous and hostile than Begin have often warned against the danger he poses--a danger which is now manifest in its most evident form and which, eventually, will only bring the worst consequences down upon him and Israel. We are sure of this. However, we still hope that the world will realize this and will try to bring pressure to bear upon a man who appears confident of his ability to put a match to the fuse of war.

PDRY

PDRY LEADER ARRIVES IN DELHI, WELCOMED BY GANDHI

For Delhi and Aden media coverage of the visit to India by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers, see the India section of the 18 May South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

GHALI COMMENTS ON UN CONTACTS, SINAI FORCE

NC182010 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that Egypt has officially asked the Security Council's president to hold contacts with the council's members to explore the views of their states on the formation of a UN peacekeeping force. The president will inform Egypt of the results of his contacts this week. Dr Ghali added that Egypt made this request out of its desire that the United Nations should shoulder its responsibilities toward safeguarding peace in the Middle East. He added that if the contacts of the Security Council's president prove that it is not possible to form this force within the UN framework, then Egypt will continue its contacts to form the multinational force after explaining the Security Council's position to the world.

Dr Ghali said that the multinational force would be a temporary force and that if new circumstances occur and the Security Council is able to issue a resolution within 1 or 2 years providing for the formation of a UN peacekeeping force, then this force would replace the multinational force. He asserted that the task of an international force, whether UN-sponsored or multinational, would be confined to the implementation of the peace treaty's provisions and that it would have no right to interfere in affairs concerning the region.

In an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent, Dr Ghali said that Egypt is holding consultations with Sudan to coordinate the stand of the two countries, particularly concerning the African issues that will be raised at the African summit conference to be held in Nairobi in June, and to discuss ways of confronting the Libyan intervention in Chad, which is threatening security and stability in Africa.

AS-SADAT MAKES SPEECHES IN ALEXANDRIA 16, 17 MAY

Speech at University

NC161611 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0958 GMT 16 May 81

[Speech delivered by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat on 16 May at a celebration held at Alexandria University on the occasion of the anniversary of the 15 May corrective movement--live in a linkup of Cairo transmitters]

[Excerpts] Regarding the building of peace with Israel, you naturally know that we are waiting for the results of the Israeli elections. We first waited for the U.S. elections, and the date of the Israeli elections has been advanced from November to June. We are waiting for the results of these elections and we will continue to discharge our responsibility because we have not concluded a separate agreement. We have concluded the Camp David accord, which consists of two parts: The first part concerns Egypt and Israel. The second part deals with the solution of the Palestinian question. We have not assumed for ourselves the right of speaking on behalf of the Palestinians. All that there is to the second part of the Camp David accord pertaining to the Palestinians is that it provides for the termination of the Israeli occupation and for fixing a 5-year transition period instead of the existing indefinite occupation, which might continue for 1,000 years.

This is what we are doing. But do we speak for the Palestinians? This is why I call on the Palestinians and tell them: Do what I have done; take your issue in your own hands. When the Algerians formed their provisional government here, we were in Cairo and Ferhat Abbas was with us. Ferhat Abbas was a charming person because even when reciting from the Koran, he used to mix his Arabic with English. He used to say: God is capable [said in English] of everything. [laughter] The entire world scoffed at the Algerian provisional government when it was formed. A few years later, this provisional government obtained in Switzerland Algeria's independence from France.

This is what I am telling the Palestinians: Come and take your issue in your own hands as I did. Who would have restored my territory which Israel seized? Who would have restored it? The Soviet Union? It didn't want to. The Americans? They couldn't because the land was not theirs. It would have been enough for Israel to tell them: Why do you speak on Egypt's behalf and why shouldn't those concerned come and speak? This is an example.

I took my issue in my own hands and sat with my opponent. I told him: Come, this is my land and these are my borders. I accept a settlement. I will agree to everything you want except for two things. He asked, what are these two things? I answered: They concern the land and sovereignty. Do not touch them. Ask for whatever security guarantees you want. He asked for security guarantees and I gave him more than what he asked for. The two principles of no harm to the land or sovereignty have been respected.

This is what I ask the Palestinians to do. I tell them that Al-'Arish is available for them to go to because the Palestinians have a cause and they should discuss it with their counterpart, which is Israel.

Syria has the Golan issue to contend with. I wish Hafiz al-Asad heeded what I told him. Two days before I went to Jerusalem, I met with Al-Asad in Damascus, as you know. I spent 5 and 1/2 hours in his house speaking throughout the night.

I told him: I have not yet visited Jerusalem, but I am going in 48 hours. But I tell you that two problems are over--the Sinai and the Golan--but only go along with me. Your view that my visit to Jerusalem is wrong is a tactical matter, but do you suspect, oh Hafiz, that I will be handing over Arab territory? He told me: No. I told him: Well, then we do not differ on strategy but on tactics. Describe my visit to Jerusalem as you wish, but basically we are agreed on the strategy.

This is a fact. Had Hafiz al-Asad agreed with me, the Golan agreement would have been easier to reach than the Sinai agreement and I would have regained the Golan for him as I had achieved the first disengagement for him. He refused to heed me in the second disengagement.

But they in the Ba'th Party are publicizing the idea that they are the leaders and commanders of the Arab nation.

You have a very big duty to perform in the coming stage. The dean of the university has spoken about this duty. I am very happy about what he said regarding the university and the environment. I actually want you to see the environment in order that the university may be in the service of the environment. We have never been in such a dire need as we are now because, as I have told you, all our programs are scientifically planned. We want you to cooperate with us in full in this scientific planning so that you may see the problems of the environment and that we may save efforts in building the country, God willing.

There remains one thing. As I have told you, I implored my God not to go to Moscow again. Thank God, I have not gone. I also implored my God not to be in need of our Arab brothers who believe that God is the dollar and whose importance and all they claim for themselves spring from the fact that they believe that the dollar can buy everything. I told you that there are many in Egypt who will even sell their own mothers, call on these Arab brothers. There are the journalists abroad and at home who sell their pen and conscience and there are the mean people who do not represent Egypt at all. I implored God, saying: You know that I will never bow my head before them under any circumstances. However, I was worried about Egypt. [applause] I implored God as Abraham implored Him, saying: "My Lord, make this a city of peace, and feed its people with fruits." The petroleum gushed out when I was dreaming about $4 billion annually to make Egypt a paradise. After 2 years, we will have an annual income of more than $4 billion.

I will not wait for 2 years. We have discovered the petroleum. But because it is offshore, it will take 2 or 3 years to make the necessary connections and drill it. The quantity discovered will bring an income of $4 billion or more. However, I will not wait for 2 years until they complete the installation of the pipes. I am beginning this year a challenge from the wide door.

There are the 50,000 feddans. Dr 'Abd ar-Raziq 'Abd al-Majid, who hails from Alexandria, is there. He will someday be called the Erhard of Egypt. You know about Erhard of Germany who changed Germany's economic position. I was surprised when he told me that we have 500 million pounds to give to the people. This was the sum of 500 million pounds we spoke about on 1 May.

We shall reap full benefits after 2 and 1/2 years as I told you. But I am not going to wait. I will start with the full mechanization [spoken in English] of the 50,000 agricultural feddans. You have no idea what the cost will be. It will be expensive. But [words indistinct] we will know our limits. We will know what we are embarking on and we will not act impulsively. We will know that what we are doing will be completed in 3,5,7 or 10 years. This will ensure for us full food security. But the economics of this operation are beyond imagination.

God Almighty has responded to my supplication and we are not longer in a position enabling any of these brothers to dominate us. They are trivial in their emotions and ideals. They are ignorant in their structure. The money has corrupted their hearts. We thank God for the wealth we discovered but the money has made them more Godless and immoral. They believed they could control the destiny of Egypt. Thank God, for our heads will remain high in the seven skies and we will become the richest among them again. This is because nobody has the assets [spoken in English] I have here. I have petroleum, as they have, the Nile, land and the greenery and the Egyptian man above and before everything else.

May God give you success and peace be with you.

Speech to Lawyers

LD172358 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1842 GMT 17 May 81

[Speech by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat delivered on 17 May to the lawyers of Alexandria on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the May corrective revolution--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God. Sisters and brothers, sons and daughters, lawyers of Alexandria: I am greatly honored to meet with you on this occasion--the passage of 10 years since the corrective revolution--the May revolution. I am honored that you have invited me to meet with you in Alexandria, the city of free men, the city of struggle and hard work. God has willed that Alexandria and its university be the first to support the 23 July revolution. God has also willed that Alexandria with its lawyers celebrate the corrective revolution on its 10th anniversary. It is an honor that you have conferred upon me the robe of lawyer [honorary doctorate in law]--I who, throughout my entire youth was (?connected) with you as you donned the robe to defend me. [applause]

Before I came here--I wish to apologize to you for being late in coming here, this was due to my meeting with the U.S. envoy who will leave immediately for Israel to prepare for the forthcoming meeting between the Egyptian, Israeli and American representatives so that the agreement on the details of the multinational force will be drawn up. This force will assume its duties in Sinai following the final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, the last remaining part of Sinai. This withdrawal, God willing, will take place within 11 months. That is, next April--17 April. [applause]

The meeting took a long time and that was the reason for my delay. I am aware that you are with me because my assistants and I had to give this subject every attention and the discussion it deserved. On this particular day, in which we are meeting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the corrective revolution, the significance of this matter is to complete all the arrangements so that the remaining part of Sinai will return to its motherland.

As I meet with you today, at this historic turning point in the life of the people, I say that the question for which all of us must work, defend and exert boundless efforts and sweat is the rebuilding of Egypt. The government alone cannot accomplish the task of rebuilding Egypt. Unless all of us make joint efforts in the battle to rebuild Egypt we will not be able to compensate for the time that has been lost and the building will not be accomplished in the manner all of us wish and expect.

This being the case, if the matter is one of rebuilding Egypt, argument is not at all valid as a substance for rebuilding. [applause] Argument will preoccupy us and destroy our unity while we are dealing with a major and sacred issue. We must rely on science and work, not argument, to rebuild.

This is why my meeting with you at this particular phase and turning point is very vital. I have never lost my confidence in you as Egyptians and lawyers. I shall never lose confidence in you or in all our brother workers and peasants and all of the Egyptian people.

However, I would like to put before you an important matter which nobody but you, the lawyers of Egypt, can understand. You remember that after the corrective revolution of 15 May 1971--this is a painful memory indeed--the only battle against the corrective revolution was inside the journalists union, despite the fact that they are the most qualified to defend the 15 May revolution because this revolution will ensure their pens and their freedom. The only battle against the revolution was in the journalists union. To my knowledge, those who were involved were not Egyptian journalists, but a group dominating the Egyptian journalists. I never doubted this. The day came when all of us listened to the Egyptian journalists during the first meeting of their general assembly when they overcame the maneuvers and tactics of the domineering minority. The Egyptian journalists then expressed their opinion in the elections to their general assembly. The result of the election confirmed what I had believed for years, that the whole matter was that a group had dominated the journalists, (?rigged) the elections, using methods of which you are aware, and tried to create the [word indistinct] that the Egyptian journalists' opinion was against the 15 May revolution.

Some of those who have imposed themselves on your union in Cairo are trying to say that they speak for the lawyers of Egypt. I say no: Are the Egyptian lawyers against the closure of the detention camps? Are they against the battle of destiny? Were the Egyptian lawyers against the expulsion of the Soviet experts when the Soviet presence was an expression of an attempt to undermine the Egyptian decision? Are Egyptian lawyers against peace and the cause of peace? Are the Egyptian lawyers against us walking tall when the dwarfs in our Arab nation meet to harm Egypt and its dignity by isolating it and trying to starve Egypt while Egypt stood with its head held high up in the sky and while we tightened our belts until God Almighty gave us the means? Do the Egyptian lawyers support those who want to humiliate Egypt, buy its decision and starve it? [some talking in the background] Yes. I know this. I never doubted you for one moment. I am just putting it to you as a case, as I meet with you, because this responsibility is ours, not mine alone.

This is the same situation as that which existed in the journalists union. A group dominated it in order to impose itself and speak in the name of the (?lawyers), saying that the Egyptian lawyers were against this and against that.

Whoever wants to speak on behalf of Egypt's lawyers must have the confidence of the Egyptian lawyers, and not a particular group which imposes itself because its voice is loud. This is all I want to put to you because you are full partners in the rebuilding process.

The worst thing I heard before the new Wafd Party dissolved itself was that some officials of that party told some people that the Americans had contacted As-Sadat and told him that the Wafd Party should be formed in order to create a balance in the country. We are the Americans. [as heard]

This, of course, gives you an idea about who says such a thing and who assumes that under the British and under the king this was possible and that nothing happened in Egypt without the approval of the British and the king. On the same basis of self-deficiency, they assumed that the Americans must tell me that the Wafd Party must emerge in order to balance things. This was the ugliest thing I ever heard. This is why I say today, addressing our youth of Egypt and of the National Democratic Party, that we will never, never allow anyone to speak on behalf of Egypt or reach the seat of rule in Egypt except those who represent the values of Egypt, the people of Egypt and the village of Egypt, which is the basis.

I wish to tell you something. I took the October War initiative against the will of the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. You remember that the reason for expelling the Soviet experts was the first detente statement which was issued in May 1972 in Moscow. Nixon was visiting Moscow at the time. There they worked out the so-called policy of detente and the statement was issued in Moscow. The statement was signed by Brezhnev and Nixon. The statement said: We advise military relaxation in the Middle East. Military relaxation, while I was 20 steps behind Israel in armament? The meaning of military relaxation was that I should surrender. That was the direct reason. The statement was issued in May 1972. June passed. In July 1972 I told 17,000 Soviet experts: You must be out within 1 week. [applause] Why? Because of Egypt. Neither Russia nor America nor Russia and America make my decisions for me. I am the one who decides. I decide out of my own will, my own decision. As I told the Soviets [changes thought] at the time the positions of power in the Wafd Party were with me since all of them had come out of prison. When the Soviets told me that they would give me deterrent arms provided that I would not use the arms without Moscow's approval and decision, I swore at them. [applause]

As I have said, thank God our will is our own; our decision is our own; our country is our own. Our system of government is consultative. During the past 10 years, as you have seen, the Constitution has not been suspended. No special measure has been taken, despite the fact that out of the 10 years, 9 were under martial law. We are now building. Democracy is expanding. Not only has a people's assembly been established, we now also have a consultative council. The president of the republic enlists his advisers from the universities and the qualified people in the country. We also have specialized national councils. We are marching forward. The democratic experiment is advancing daily.

The time has come when everyone must stick to his (?position). Even those who wish to speak in the name of religion must work in religion and not involve politics in religion or religion in politics so as to protect himself. Instead of sitting here, all of us should build it more and more, to (?explain) our democracy, as I have told you. We have started with a multiplicity of parties and the People's Assembly. We now have a consultative council, the fourth estate, the press. We still want to strengthen our democracy and protect it. The more we strengthen it, the more we defend it. Others take shelter under democracy in order to attack [word indistinct]. They are aware that I have closed the detention camps. I have the habit of not backing down on any decision I make. Would I reopen the detention camps again? No. Our affairs are in our own hands. Our fate is in our own hands. We must face ourselves and our brothers and peoples with all the facts, and very clearly, because the matter conerns us. We are proud because in the Arab area and in the Middle East our state is a state of security and safety, the state where man's dignity is preserved, the state where there are no (?revolutionaries), the state where the law is supreme.

We must discipline those among us who [words indistinct] Why? Because it is in their interest to distort Egypt's image. This is exactly what they are doing. Those who take from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya or Syria. The terrorist who recently brought in the radio to cause an explosion on 1 May, Friday came from Damascus.

He came from Damacus and was financed by Libya. Of course, we are lenient with those who attack their mother: well, it is not at all conceivable that we will leave the entire rebuilding process to end this kind of thing. Regrettably, Egyptians are doing this and also some from inside Egypt are corresponding with these people. What I am saying is that we must face what we must face as every nation has done in its rebuilding process.

ISLAMIC, ARAB LEAGUE SUPPORTS JERUSALEM LIBERATION

NC182232 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2153 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 May (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat will chair the meetings of the Constituent Assembly of the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples in its second ordinary session Saturday evening, 30 May, at the headquarters of the general secretariat of the Arab League.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM, in its issue to be published tomorrow, says that the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples General Secretariat has prepared a working paper on the Jerusalem issue. The working paper states that the internationalization of Jerusalem has been overtaken by the events of the past 33 years and that the Arab and Islamic countries concur unanimously in liberating Arab Jerusalem because it is an indivisible part of the West Bank and that the Palestinian people have a right to make it the capital of their state. As for the freedom to visit the holy places, it can be guaranteed by an agreement among all parties.

AL-AHRAM says that during this session the league will discuss the political aspect of the draft charter of the League of Islamic and Arab peoples, a working paper on the state of affairs of the Arab and Islamic worlds, memorandums pertinent to the status of the Islamic and Arab issues in the draft charter, a plan on the Islamic and Arab parliament, collective Islamic security, the guidelines of the draft charter of the League of Islamic and Arab People's, a plan on the Arab common market and the league's goals in the domains of education, culture, information and the rights of Muslims and Arabs.

ASH-SHA'B CRITICIZES BUILDING OF RA'S BANAS BASE

LD150921 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 5 May 81 p 16

['Abd al-Maghni Sa'id article: "The Ax in Ra's Banas"]

[Excerpts] I understand Egypt's concern about the continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and view of it as a threat to the Gulf countries and the Middle East in general. I also understand the Egyptian Government's announcement of its readiness to give all necessary facilities to U.S. and European armed forces to cross its airspace, waters or territories in order to go to the rescue of any Arab or Islamic state that might be the target of aggression. I would probably even understand President as-Sadat's extending the area of potential danger to Indonesia in the east and Morocco in the west, thus covering a vast area between the Pacific and the Atlantic.

What I do not understand is that the matter of facilities should develop from granting transit facilities in case of need to the building of new military bases. We have often pointed out that there is a difference between facilities being given and military bases being built, and that facilities can easily be turned into bases if they are misued or their meaning is given an elastic interpetation.

We have given as an example the joint training and maneuvers, and explained that the participation of U.S. advisers or others in training our armed forces in the use of sophisticated U.S. weapons of which we have no previous experience or which we have not yet mastered is acceptable. What is not acceptable is to carry out joint nanuevers as if we were in a joint defense alliance with the United States. We should not underrate the maneuvers and misleadingly call them innocent. Equally, it is acceptable for U.S. or other forces to use our bases, airspace and territory for transit facilities, provided this is done with our free agreement, but it is unacceptable that we should build bases for these forces in areas which they specify.

What is even worse is that we should invite these forces to build these bases the way they want. This is what President as-Sadat has revealed in his interview with the magazine OCTOBER.

Egypt is capable of building new bases and has an established experience in this field. Should it be necessary for it to seek the help of foreign advisers, this should be limited to maximum necessity. If Egypt needs loans or credit facilities to build and equip these bases, this can be arranged and there will be no need to entrust a foreign state to build our military bases the way it wants. That is, unless this foreign state considers the building and equipping of military bases a military secret that cannot be divulged, even to the state in which the bases are being built. If this is the case, then the bases proposed will turn from Egyptian into foreign bases and their presence will be an even greater threat to our independence and sovereignty.

Much is being said in Egypt and abroad about the Americans' actually undertaking the construction of the new military base in Ra's Banas. This important strategic location was never an Egyptian military base; it was reserve airfield, south of Hammatah in the chain of bases and airfields built by the British along the Red Sea coast during World War II.

The present idea is to build a military base and not merely to renovate the airfield in Ra's Banas, which is close to the Egyptian-Sudanese border, with the aim of defending the Horn of Africa, the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula. It is therefore within the framework of U.S. strategy and serves its purposes more than it serves Egyptian defense needs.

WEEKLY REPORTS PLANS FOR NEW OPPOSITION PARTY

LD171138 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 May (MENA)--The weekly AS-SIYASI said today that studies are being conducted with a view to forming a new opposition party in addition to the existing opposition parties. The new opposition party, the weekly adds, is expected to include names of powerful political personalities, including some of those belonging to the existing opposition parties and some independent personalities. The weekly says that consultations will be held within the next few days in order to complete arrangements for the establishment of the new party.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS TWO SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS FOILED

NC152125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2052 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 15 May (MENA)--In its Saturday issue AL-AHRAM reports that the State Security Investigations Department in Egypt was able to foil two new attempts this week by agents of the rejectionist front to cause confusion and instability on the Egyptian internal front and affect the atmosphere of security and safety in which the Egyptian people live.

The first case involves a new sabotage attempt by some elements to set off bombs in some installations and assembly places. The second case involves attempts to assassinate some figures. The paper says that the two cases are being investigated and that the full details will be announced after completing the interrogation of the defendants and arriving at the real dimensions behind the planning of the two attempts.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 340

JN181643 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA)--Iraqi ground resistance has shot down four Iranian planes: three helicopters and one Phantom fighter plane. A military communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command today said that the Iranian regime's losses are 39 killed and 14 infantry positions, 6 tanks, 6 field guns of various calibers, 5 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed. The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Communique No 340 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: Our capable armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:
A. Six killed and one field gun and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Nowsud region.
B. One field gun and one observation post destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. Our ground resistance shot down today an enemy Phanton fighter plan in the Qasr-e Shirin region.
C. Three killed and four infantry positions destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
D. Seven killed and two vehicles destroyed in the Dezful region.
E. Seven killed and three infantry positions, one tank, two field guns and one vehicle destroyed in the Shush region. Furthermore, our ground resistance shot down two enemy helicopters in the same region.
F. One field gun destroyed in the Khafajiya [Susangerd] region.
G. Three killed and one observation post destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
H. Our units hit hard with various weapons enemy positions and personnel concentrations in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 13 killed; 7 infantry positions, 1 field gun, 2 vehicles, 1 excavator and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed and 1 enemy helicopter shot down. Moreover, five serviceable Chieftain tanks left behind by the enemy in no man's land during previous battles in the same region were captured.

Thus, total known enemy losses are 39 killed and 14 infantry positions, 6 tanks, 6 field guns of various calibers, 5 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 4 aircraft--three helicopters and one Phantom fighter plane--were destroyed or captured.

11. Our planes today raided enemy personnel concentrations in the Nowsud region, scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 18 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two personnel carriers, six vehicles and one mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 May 1981

DEFEAT OF IRANIAN FORCE AT ABADAN REPORTED

JN181328 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May INA--A military official on the Abadan front has announced that the Iranian military force that attempted to attack the Iraqi forces besieging Abadan has been defeated.

In a report published in today's edition of the paper ATH-THAWRAH about the military operations in the Abadan sector over the past 2 days, the military official said that a large number of Iranian corpses lie scattered on the battlefield. Thus the Iranian enemy has added another defeat to the many others he has suffered in Khafajiya [Susangerd] and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab regions.

The report confirmed that the Iraqi forces have used various kinds of weapons in their military operations to defeat the Iranian attack. Coordination between the various units of the Iraqi forces has been marvelous.

He added that the Iraqi forces are in full control of the situation and are directing heavy blows to the enemy. The military official stressed that no force whatsoever can move the Iraqi forces from their positions.

The Iraqi military communique of yesterday [No 339] said that the enemy suffered 307 dead and the loss of 2 infantry positions and 1 tank in Abadan during the past 2 days of battles.

Siege Said To Be Tightening

JN182032 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpts] The commander of the Salah ad-Din forces has asserted that our armed forces are tightening their siege of Abadan and continuing to pound it with heavy weapons. In a statement to INA in the frontlines, he refuted the Persian enemy's claim [words indistinct] the Abadan-Shaykh Budayr road. He affirmed that all these claims are baseless and exist only in the imagination of the Persian officials.

The commander of the Salah ad-Din forces said that the road which the Persian enemy has claimed to have regained is still under the control of our valiant forces and will continue to be so. We defy the Persians and their agents to show one single proof of their false allegations.

The commander of the Salah ad-Din forces said that the enemy left behind hundreds of its dead on the battlefield after it tried to approach our units which are tightening their siege over Abadan. However, its attempt failed miserably. Yesterday, we inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment on the enemy during an operation carried out by our heroic armed forces.

KING HUSAYN HOLDS TALKS WITH SADDAM HUSAYN

Reception on Arrival

JN161032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1029 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 May (INA)--His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan arrived here at noon today on an official visit to Iraq. His majesty was accorded a big official reception led by President Saddam Husayn. He was also received by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister; a number of RCC members and the ministers.

King Husayn is accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad Al-Lawzi, Minister of Court 'Amir Khammash and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim.

First Session of Talks

JN161826 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 May 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad--The Jordanian side under His Majesty King Husayn and the Iraqi side under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn held a 2-hour meeting immediately upon his majesty's arrival in Baghdad this afternoon.

The two sides made a comprehensive analysis of the present Arab situation, including the recent developments in the Lebanese area, and assessed the international developments and their impact on the Arab region.

His Majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's support for the unified Arab stand and its continued intensive efforts in all the international arenas in the service of the Arab nation's issues and in order to confront the dangers and the challenges which face the Arab homeland.

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn briefed his majesty on all the sides of the Islamic and nonaligned states' mediation efforts in relations to the Iraqi-Iranian war. He stressed that Iraq is open to all the positive efforts exerted in this respect while strictly sticking to its rights to sovereignty over its land and waters and stressing its pan-Arab principles.

His majesty King Husayn expressed his support for and confidence in the Iraqi people and leadership and his belief that the country that leads this battle to regain its legitimate national rights is able to lead the political battle with confidence, faithfulness and success.

His majesty reiterated Jordan's support on all levels for Iraq for the sake of backing its stand and its firm and just Arab national rights.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad on the Jordanian side. It was also attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council (RCC) member and first deputy prime minister; Na'im Haddad, RCC member and speaker of the National Assembly; and Tariq Muhammad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary and acting chief of the presidential office.

Second Session of Talks

JN170624 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Baghdad--His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Saddam Husayn held a meeting last night in Baghdad during which they continued their discussion of the various aspects of the current Arab situation.

In the meantime, the Jordanian and Iraqi sides continued their talks, which centered on bilateral issues and mutual cooperation between the two fraternal countries in all fields.

President Saddam Husayn held a banquet last night in honor of his majesty King Husayn. The banquet was attended by the members of the Jordanian delegation, the vice president of the Iraqi republic, members of the Revolution Command Council, the ministers and senior civilian and military officials.

Departure for Saudi Arabia

JN171343 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 May 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 17 May (INA)--His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, concluded his official 1-day visit to Iraq and left for Riyadh this afternoon. The Jordanian monarch was seen off at Baghdad Airport by President Saddam Husayn; Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister; several RCC members; and several ministers.

MINISTER VOWS NO 'ZIONIST AGGRESSION' VIA JORDAN

JN141934 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 May 81

[Text] Jordanian Minister of Information 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah commented on what an Arab newspaper has said regarding the possibility the Zionist enemy might attack Syria via Jordanian territory. He said that Jordan's firm stand--which needs no repetition or restressing under every condition and situation and despite everything--is the genuine Arab stand. The whole of the Arab nation can rest assured that no fraternal Arab country will be subjected to Zionist danger via Jordanian territory, which is defended by the Jordanian Arab Army, the shield of the nation and its true guard, who stands along the longest confrontation line. We will all die before that takes place.

PAPERS VIEW DEVELOPMENTS ON LEBANON SITUATION

JN160823 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 16 May 81

[Press review]

[Text] The U.S. mediation efforts to solve the Syrian missile crisis--efforts led by envoy Philip Habib--and the Soviet and U.S. naval move toward the Lebanese coast are two topics that are focused on in the editorials of today's papers.

Under the headline "Al-Biqa: Missiles and the U.S. Time Factor," AR-RA'Y says: Philip Habib, U.S. President Reagan's envoy, continues his shuttle tours of the area to tackle the issue of the Al-Biqa' missiles. Begin gave the U.S. adminstration a respite of 1 week to solve the crisis. The U.S. envoy, however, tried together with the Israeli prime minister to have this period extended.

What is of interest is that the bargaining effort between the U.S. and Israeli sides over this respite is one of days or weeks. U.S. circles consider Habib's efforts during the required respite as part of the protracted policy, whereas the 14-year-old issue of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian land remains unsolved and the Israeli attacks on Lebanon have been going on for several years and are exacerbated day after day.

Continuing, the paper says: The time factor which Washington has calculated in days concerning the question of the Al-Biqa' missiles follows the other time factor which Washington has calculated in years and not in days concerning the Israeli aggression on the Lebanese and Palestinian lands. When Israel complains, even if this complaint is unjustified--this being the case with the Al-Biqa' missiles--Washington rushes to expedite a solution. But the Arabs' demand for an end to the Israeli aggression on their land is a matter that does not deserve an expeditious solution in Washington's view.

The paper adds: The missile question that the U.S. administration is racing against time to settle is only the fruit of the long U.S. disregard for the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

The paper concludes by saying: Jordan has cautioned Washington and all the peace-loving countries against the dangers of disregarding the Israeli aggressive practices and against slackness in curbing and eliminating its vestiges. Therefore, if it is really serious about saving the area from an explosion, Washington should expedite attempts to eliminate the Israeli aggression from the Arab land, for this constitutes the basic step along the sound road.

Under the headline "The Fleets of Superpowers and Begin's Political Madness," AD-DUSTUR writes the following comment: The Soviet and U.S. naval units' move toward the Lebanese coast consolidates the tightening of the international noose around the developments in the Lebanese situation in general and in Al-Biqa' in particular.

This also moves the missile crisis to the protracted course which the U.S. envoy's mission has reached, as indicated by Washington reports. Nevertheless, the accurate calculations of the outcome of the race to prevent the eruption of the situation and to avoid confrontation depend on how far Begin goes in his acts and persistence on the continuation of Israeli intervention in Lebanon, freedom of flights over Lebanon, the shelling of the Palestinian camps and the strikes at the Palestinian resistance.

All signs indicate that Begin will exploit the circumstances to cause the situation to erupt, even if this would lead to a military confrontation that might exceed the Arab-Israeli framework. This is because Begin, as described by the Israeli papers, suffers from political madness and because his words contradict his deeds. This has led to loud Israeli voices demanding that he leave the government, withdraw the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon and not intervene in Lebanon's domestic affairs.

In relation to these serious contingencies and the possible results these of contingencies, such as the outbreak of war and the endangering of world peace and security, it is incumbent upon the United States more than any other country to play an effective information role in the service of peace by curbing the Israeli aggression and forcing Israel to withdraw from Lebanese territory. This withdrawal and the halting of the Israeli intervention in Lebanon's affairs would pave the way for the resumption of efforts to settle the Lebanese crisis on the Lebanese and Arab levels. These are the natural axes that must be used to get Lebanon out of its ordeal.

However, Washington's contention that the presence of its envoy in the area, as the U.S. defense secretary said, is one of the reasons war has not broken out, is an evasion of its responsibility to play its positive role in preventing the outbreak of war, saving the area from destruction and avoiding a comprehensive military confrontation menacing the security and peace of the entire world.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN ATTENDS TACTICAL EXERCISE

JN182012 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] At noon today His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, attended a tactical exercise with live ammunition carried out by one of the Royal 4th Mechanized Division's formations.

The exercise included operations of successive counterattacks with the aim of restoring positions occupied by the simulated enemy.

The participants performed ably in carrying it out and in the handling of equipment and various arms and showed great physical endurance of the continued pressure of the battle.

The exercise was also attended by Staff Lt Gen Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces, and a number of the armed forces' high-ranking officers.

AL-WAZZAN, AL-AS'AD MEET, MAKE STATEMENTS

NC182002 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today resumed his contacts with the security commands and emphasized the need to calm the security situation in Lebanon.

At 1100, Prime Minister al-Wazzan called on the Chamber of Deputies speaker, Kamil al-As'ad, for consultations on the current situation. Following the meeting, Kamil al-As'ad said:

[Begin recording] The first problem that the government must pay attention to is this indiscriminate shelling, because this killing of innocent people is so outrageous that it cannot be described. The fighting must be confined to the combatants. The shelling is aimed at gaining certain positions. The indiscriminate shelling [words indistinct] innocent and helpless victims. [Words indistinct] can only be justified as attempts by this or that party to occupy the positions of one another. The interecine fighting is continuing between the two parties and the victims are innocent. The combatants are hiding in emplacements. I think this is unprecedented and will not take place in the future.

I advised the government over the past few days that if it is unable to end the fighting, it must at least say who starts the shelling. Such an announcement will embarrass all parties. This is the only (?tool) at the government's disposal. This is what I stressed today during the meeting with Prime Minister al-Wazzan. We discussed all dimensions of the crisis. [passage indistinct] we also reviewed the current missile crisis. In addition, I reminded Prime Minister al-Wazzan of the Socialist Democratic Party's stand on the south and of plans that can foil the Israeli plot in the south. [passage indistinct] We concentrated on this subject in particular because the other issues do not concern Lebanon alone and Lebanon, or rather, the government cannot [words indistinct]. The government must at least announce which side starts this criminal shelling. The government can identify the side that begins the shelling. We cannot consider this shelling as fighting. We can call them snipers or hunters, but not fighters; such people kill innocent people [words indistinct].

[Question] Your Excellency, is Prime Minister al-Wazzan holding the current contacts with leaders and officials for consultations or [words indistinct]?

[Answer] I have noticed that there is no new stand following these contacts.

[Question] Your Excellency, [words indistinct] hope is lost in establishing a cease-fire [words indistinct]?

[Answer] I am not saying that (?hope is lost), I am asking that when it is said that there is no cease-fire [words indistinct] this vicious circle does not preclude in-depth discussions. On the contrary, the crisis dictates that we conduct an in-depth discussion to surmount the crisis. In the meantime, we must not give in to [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I have asked the government to identify which side starts the shelling [words indistinct]. The authority says it cannot know. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Also after the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] Under these circumstances, consultations are imperative. The authorities feel that it is necessary to hold consultations and to listen to all views and obtain the required support. In his capacity as the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies and one of the preeminent leaders, Kamil al-As'ad gave us the chance to consult with him and listen to his sound views.

I believe that I received what I wanted from this visit. I listened to the useful views of his excellency the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. Certainly, we are concerned that under these circumstances the Chamber of Deputies will continue to have a say in all our steps to achieve our goal, namely, to emerge from our (?devastating) crisis.

[Question] In the wake of the deliberate killing of citizens by indiscriminately shelling the two parts of Beirut, does the government intend to announce who starts the shelling or violates the cease-fire?

[Answer] These issues are under consideration and are subject to implementation when we are capable.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I believe that Speaker al-As'ad now has enough information to carry out the necessary steps to ensure protection.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] His Excellency Speaker al-As'ad has a right to do this. When he sees the time is opportune to extend this invitation, the government is ready to appear before the Chamber of Deputies.

[Question] Can we understand that the budget will not be issued in a decree?

[Answer] As yet, we do not intend to issue the budget in a decree. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

SHAM'UN INTERVIEWED ON LEBANESE SITUATION

NC181822 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1315 GMT 18 May 81

[Voice of Lebanon interview with former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un--recorded; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency the President, you have always been frank with us, and I admit that I want to take advantage of your frankness to pose some questions--as many as time permits. Your Excellency the President, there is a consensus that the coming few hours will be decisive with regard to the SAM missile crisis. Either there will be a military confrontation between Syria and Israel or a diplomatic solution. What does His Excellency President Sham'un expect to happen?

[Answer] According to reports received from outside recently, I do not think that it is a matter of hours, as you said in your question. It is more correct to say that it is a matter of days. In a statement he made recently the Israeli prime minister said that he will pursue diplomatic means before resorting to war. It is known that diplomatic means may take more than hours, but rather days. However, I fear that the result will be the same--that the diplomatic means will not produce the desired result and that then the catastrophe may take place.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, in case a military confrontation takes place between Syria and Israel, what would be the effects of such confrontation on Lebanon?

[Answer] Actually, all this depends on the scope of the confrontation, on its size. If the confrontation is limited to the missiles, I think that the battle will begin and end with the removal of the missiles or the inability of the Israeli forces to remove them. I do not think that there will be a general war between Syria and Israel over the missiles. But if other military actions take place, using the missiles' presence as a reason for a wider confrontation, then it is feared that a general war will result between the two countries.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, suppose there is a diplomatic solution to the crisis. Will such a solution have a positive or negative impact on Lebanon?

[Answer] If the crisis is resolved diplomatically, I think that it will become the duty of Washington to take further steps to resolve the Lebanese crisis. When I met with President Reagan's envoy, Mr Habib, I asked him the following question: Is your mission confined to the missile issue or will it also deal with the whole Lebanese crisis? His answer was very frank. He said: The basic U.S. objectives are for Lebanon to regain its sovereignty, independence, health and territorial integrity. However, at present my mission is confined to two issues: The first is the missile issue, and the second is the issue of the Syrian presence on the hills around Zahlah and Sannin and the removal of the Syrian military presence from these areas, replacing it with the Lebanese Army. If he succeeds in this effort, this will enable us to ask the U.S. President or the U.S. Government to continue working to end the whole Lebanese crisis.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, this means the solution will come stage by stage. Does this mean the mandate of the Syrian deterrent forces will be renewed?

[Answer] I do not mean a renewal of the mandate of the Syrian forces. As you know, I am totally against the renewal of the mandate in every sense of the word. I think that it will be very difficult for the Lebanese Government to renew the mandate of the Syrian forces once more after the whole world--whether it be in the United States, the rest of the American states or the European states--has stated that the Syrian forces have become occupation forces in Lebanon and not security or deterrent forces. Therefore, it will be difficult for the Lebanese Government--any government--renew the mandate of the deterrent forces.

[Question] Is it possible to keep the same missiles in Al-Biqa', Your Excellency the President, and attach them to the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF]? What is the official Lebanese attitude on this question?

[Answer] The Lebanese Government has avoided giving its opinion on this matter. An opinion was expressed by the prime minister, but this was not the opinion of the whole government--that is to say, it was not the opinion of the Cabinet, regarding the SAM missiles. We think that either the Syrian forces are here as deterrent forces--and I do not think any sane person thinks the deterrent forces should have missiles or even heavy artillery, because the nature of their work is more that of a policeman than a purely military one. Therefore, if the deterrent forces are here to maintain security, they do not need heavy artillery or missiles. If they are occupation forces, they are not accepted--neither as occupation forces nor as deterrent forces with missiles.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, we would like to hear your opinion regarding Syrian intransigence. The information media say there is Syrian intransigence and, on the other hand, there are Israeli threats. What is your explanation of the Syrian intransigence and of what is being said about Begin using the missiles crisis for his election campaign?

[Answer] The Syrian intransigence is the result of the fact that the Syrian forces have turned from deterrent forces into occupation forces. Occupation forces are equipped with weapons that are different than those supplied to deterrent forces. This is the reason for the Syrian intransigence. The Syrian forces possess missiles for air defense and to serve Syria's interests. As for the Israeli intransigence, the Israelis explain this by pointing to the fact that the presence of such missiles is another indication that the Syrian forces have become occupation forces and that their presence as occupation forces in Lebanon close to the Israeli border constitutes a threat to the safety of Israel. Consequently, Israel is trying to avoid this danger. As for the issue of the elections, in my opinion this is a secondary issue. I do not think that Mr Begin is using the presence or nonpresence of the missiles as an election issue, because this is a matter that affects the very existence of Israel.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, Lebanon of course does not have the chance to make a military or diplomatic decision as long as Mr Habib's mission is almost totally confined to Damascus and Tel Aviv. In your opinion, which is better for Lebanon--a military or a diplomatic solution?

[Answer] In principle, a diplomatic solution is better and safer than a military solution--that is, provided it is followed by other stages to entirely resolve the Lebanese crisis. It seems to some, however, that a military solution is better and quicker than a diplomatic solution. This supposes that a military solution will force Syria to withdraw all its forces from Lebanon. This is the difference between the two solutions. But I think that a peaceful solution is better, provided that it is followed by continuous and serious efforts by the United States to resolve the Lebanese crisis from its roots.

[Question] Mr President, the Lebanese war is currently escalating, and this escalation is coinciding with the missiles crisis. Your Excellency, do you think that if no military confrontation takes place and a diplomatic solution is achieved, the escalation will stop and we will again see a truce?

[Answer] Actually, I do not understand the meaning of this escalation. In my view, it has no meaning or benefit. On the contrary, it is harmful to all. It is harmful to Lebanese and non-Lebanese, and it makes any agreement between the Lebanese and the non-Lebanese--the Syrians and the Palestinians--very difficult. This escalation has no meaning or benefit. I would have expected Mr Philip Habib, while he was trying to resolve the big crisis between Syria and Israel, to at least tell the Syrians to order a cease-fire to prevent this escalation, because it is not in anyone's interest.

[Question] Mr President, let's go back to the same point. Orders are given for a cease-fire, but the Syrian forces do not abide by them. In other words, the legal authority orders a cease-fire and the forces under the legal authority do not carry out the orders. What is the reason?

[Answer] This is because the forces under the command of the legal authority no longer are legal—they have become occupation forces. For this reason, they do not obey the orders of the legal authority. These so-called legal forces also open fire on the Lebanese Army forces, which constitute the basic legal authority. This is all the result of the extraordinary conditions we are living through. The Syrian forces are acting in a manner totally contradictory to the principles for which they were asked to come to Lebanon by the Arab League.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, some people are linking the dispatch of the army to the south to the attacks on the army positions. Do you see any connection?

[Answer] I see no connection. I see a lack of connection and a lack of logic. If you have a Lebanese Army and you demand that it be dispatched to the south and then you open fire at the army in another area, this is a lack of logic in the actions of Syrians.

[Question] With regard to what the south is facing, the talk about the south and the presence of conflicting forces there, what is the role that the UNIFIL forces could have played but did not, Your Excellency?

[Answer] The UN forces are not capable of playing a role greater than the role they have played so far; they do not have the weapons to enable them to play a bigger role. They were sent to the south after the UN Security Council ordered a cease-fire. They were sent there to maintain the cease-fire. They did not succeed in their task; this is a known fact, and they were unable to prevent the infiltration of the fedayeen to the border and beyond the Lebanese-Israeli border. This is the direct reason for the battles that are taking place in the south. The reason is very well known--the intensive Palestinian presence in the south and the weapons being received by the Palestinians and being used against the Israelis. These are the reasons that prompted the Israelis to take some measures and some strong reprisals against the Lebanese areas from which the Palestinians stage their operations.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, let us return to the question of initiatives. Lebanon has witnessed several initiatives that have produced no results. Lately, there is President Reagan's initiative of sending Mr Philip Habib to Lebanon. Can you tell us what the Lebanese Front hopes Habib's mission will produce?

[Answer] I have already explained what Habib's mission involves. His mission is limited to two main issues--removing the missiles and bringing about the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from the Zahlah and Sannin areas. He may succeed in these two tasks. If he does succeed, we will move to another stage, and this is what we shall ask the Washington government about. If he does not succeed, then there will be war.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, we know that you recently visited the Presidential Palace and that you recently met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam [Syrian foreign minister], after which you made a statement expressing opposition to a dialogue with Syria at present.

[Answer] I think this is wrong. I am not against a dialogue; I am against an unfruitful dialogue. We met and said everything that should have been said. We waited for 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to bring us counterproposals to the ones we have made. We proposed the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon.

[Question] Do you think, Your Excellency, that there is a possibility of a dialogue that will lead to results?

[Answer] If there is good will. It all depends on good will. If the intentions are good, there is the possibility of a fruitful dialogue. This is what I have always said. There is no dispute between us and the Syrians. We earnestly want friendly relations to exist between Lebanon and Syria and the cooperation to be full and comprehensive between the two countries. The basic condition is that Lebanese sovereignty, independence and national dignity be respected. This requires that the Syrians withdraw their forces from Lebanon completely.

[Question] Mr President, you have been quoted as saying that the spring will be hot and the summer will see the beginning of the solution. Is this statement true?

[Answer] Yes, [words indistinct].

[Question] Can we say that our summer is going to be cool on the military front, Your Excellency?

[Answer] [Passage indistinct] I think that after these military clashes, relaxation will come.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, here at the end of this interview, we would like to know what role the Lebanese officials, the Lebanese leaders and the Lebanese citizens should play at this fateful stage?

[Answer] I will begin with the Lebanese citizen. The Lebanese citizen has endured sufferings, difficulties, loss of life and destruction with bravery. We asked him to maintain this strong spirit and bravery. We ask the officials and the politicians to look at things as they are and to face them with courage. If Lebanon's return to normal conditions demands that we tell the Syrians to return to their homes, we must say it. If this demands that we tell the Palestinians that they can stay in Lebanon until their problem is solved, provided they do not constitute a danger to Lebanon's internal and external safety, we should have the courage to tell them this. We must organize our affairs in a manner that will enable us to return to normal conditions as soon as possible.

INFANTRY, ARMOR REINFORCES ARMY IN SOUTH

NC181245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] We have just received the following: Within the framework of the plan to reinforce the Lebanese Army in the south, an infantry company supported by an armored platoon joined the Lebanese Army force operating with the UN emergency forces. At 1230 today the Lebanese Army force passed through the main streets of Sidon amid the welcome and applause of the citizens. The infantry company included about 20 vehicles and a number of armored vehicles and troop carriers under the command of 1st Lt ('Afif Muqassar). The force will operate from the army command headquarters in Arzun.

VOL REPORTS SYRIAN CLASHES WITH IRAQIS, OTHERS

NC181330 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Last Saturday an Iraqi patrol entered Syrian territory in Al-Hasakah Governorate, near Tall Kushik, and laid an ambush at midnight. The Iraqi patrol opened fire at a Syrian intelligence service jeep, killing the five passengers.

In Aleppo, the Muslim brotherhood attacked a guard post with incendiary handgrenades, killing the post commander, Warrant Officer (Abu Nida'), and three other soldiers. In (Al-Kallas), (Bab an-Nayrab) and (Tarfun Juwayah) clashes took place in which machineguns were used. In (Sahl al-Ghab) roadblocks were set up, causing tension in the area and disrupting studies at Aleppo universities.

AL-ASAD REPORTED TO HAVE VISITED MOSCOW 15 MAY

NC190706 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Diplomatic sources have revealed to the Voice of Lebanon that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad visited Moscow last Friday for 24 hours, accompanied by a high military delegation.

BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL'S DEPARTURE FROM LEBANON DENIED

NC182136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] A responsible source in the Lebanese forces command has denied reports that Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil has left Lebanon. The Lebanese forces commander continued his activities today as usual.

HABIB'S 18 MAY RETURN TO DAMASCUS REPORTED

JN181902 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1845 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Philip Habib, U.S. President Reagan's envoy, arrived in Damascus from Riyadh this afternoon.

PRIME MINISTER REVIEWS DEVELOPMENTS WITH CABINET

JN181250 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Damascus--The Cabinet met under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1000 today.

At the beginning of the meeting Dr al-Kasm explained the latest developments concerning the political and military crisis fabricated by the Zionist enemy against Syria's pan-Arab and effective role in the Arab arena, particularly in the Lebanese arena.

Dr al-Kasm said that when Syria directly challenged and confronted the Zionist escalation, it was following a consistent pan-Arab and national course which cannot change and a consistent commitment to the will of its people and that of the Arab nation. The prime minister added: At this stage we cannot but express our pride in the great popular manifestation in this militant country, which became apparent through the citizens' initiative and the level of their participation in all that is required for ensuring comprehensive national preparedness to confront the enemy and through their stand in one strong popular front which is determined, under the leadership of Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, to resist pressures, threats, aggressions and conspiracies.

Dr al-Kasm added: The current circumstances have highlighted the Arab masses' comprehensive support for Syria's course, which these masses consider as being the strongest and firmest position of Arab steadfastness. The dimensions of international support for this course have also been highlighted through the stands of friendly and socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union.

Dr al-Kasm concluded his review of the latest developments by saying: While we are prepared and ready, we shall not be deceived by appearances or maneuvers. Any sacrifices that Syria will offer for the sake of protecting Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution and for defending its national and pan-Arab cause will be normal sacrifices which will have far-reaching results on the pan-Arab level of the Arab struggle.

After this political review the Cabinet discussed the items on its agenda, adopted several resolutions and approved several decrees and laws submitted to it. The meeting ended at 1330 today.

ISRAELI ACTS, NOT MISSILES, SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION

JN190659 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] TISHRIN comments today: When the forces hostile to Syria propose withdrawal of the Syrian missiles from Lebanon without discussing the causes that led to the current situation in Lebanon, they do so not to solve the crisis but to exacerbate it.

The presence of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon is not a factor in this crisis and has no connection whatsoever with the basic essence of this crisis. The truth is completely different: These missiles are confronting and containing the crisis as well as eliminating its traces and erasing the vital causes that led to its emergence. The presence of the missiles is completely equivalent to that of the Arab Deterrent Forces.

Reviewing Israel's attacks on Lebanon and its blatant intervention in Lebanon's affairs, TISHRIN says: The presence of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon is an essential element for restoring Lebanon's security and preserving pan-Arab security. Any attempt to discuss a possible withdrawal of these missiles touches on a vital issue concerning not only Lebanon's future but also its existence. Such an attempt seeks to place the pan-Arab presence into the aggressive storms being incited by the imperialist and Zionist forces. Therefore, raising hopes over the return of the Syrian missiles to their original site is meaningless.

With the deployment of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon, the first practical step is achieved in establishing strategic balance with the Zionist enemy. Therefore, thinking of asking Syria to withdraw the missiles is to think of asking Syria to return to the state of the acute strategic imbalance in favor of the Zionist enemy and to keep the Arab nation under the mercy of his aggressive threats. This is absolutely unacceptable to any realistic and wise Arab regime which takes into account future contingencies.

Discussion should not center on the status quo created by deploying the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. This status quo is unnegotiable. Discussion should center on the abnormal situation created by Israel in Lebanon and on its other practices such as attacks, interventions and overflights of espionage planes. Discussion should specifically focus on the means to end the status of the so-called border strip, the means to impose the control of the legitimate authorities over it and over the isolationist ghetto and the means to end the repeated interventions and military attacks on Lebanon.

Serious discussion of these topics constitutes the sound and sole opening for solving the Lebanese crisis. But discussing other topics would at best be plowing the sea. Naturally, Syria has no time for useless argument and twisted wrangles. It is time for serious work and sacrifice to end the abnormal and serious situation in Lebanon, which as a result of the threats it poses to Syria is threatening pan-Arabism.

AS-SAFIR CITED ON ISRAELI RADAR ON SANNIN PEAK

JN181038 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Beirut, 18 May (SANA)--Western diplomatic sources have stated here that the uproar raised by certain quarters over the so-called Syrian missile crisis in Lebanon is actually an attempt to camouflage another more important crisis for Israel.

AS-SAFIR cites these sources as saying that U.S. Envoy Philip Habib's proposals on the future of Sannin and Zahlah disclose that Israel's actual concern is the presence of the Phalangist militias in Sannin and Zahlah that no longer exists as a result of the expulsion of the militias from the areas and the complete destruction of the French redoubt. This presence used to provide Israel with [word indistinct].

These sources add that Israel had a huge radar installation in the French redoubt on the highest summit of Mount Sannin that used to provide Israel with invaluable information. Israel, these sources said, fears two things as a result of the destruction of the French redoubt and the deployment of the Arab Deterrent Forces in the area: Seizure of the sophisticated radar by the deterrent forces and the possibility that these forces might use it if it is in serviceable condition or might dismantle it to discover its secrets or to install another [words indistinct].

The diplomatic sources are convinced that these two reasons are behind the U.S. envoy's insistence on reaching a settlement regarding the Sannin heights and Zahlah [words indistinct].

DAMASCUS COMMENTARY REITERATES STEADFASTNESS

JN181448 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] In a few brief statements President al-Asad clarified the nature of the conflict between the struggling peoples and the forces of exploitation and injustice, which are represented by U.S. imperialism and its aggressive trends.

The conflict between our nation and its enemies is the direct form of the confrontation between freedom and its enemies and naturally represents the progressive struggle of liberation against the vicious onslaught of all the forces of evil and their tools.

During the meeting between the revolutionary struggler Hafiz al-Asad and the educated vanguards of the Asian and African writers, the assertion that the peoples' victory is inevitable really summarize the president's statements in general. Indeed, even though imperialist circles have the advantage of material power over the peoples, these circles are still losing. Thus, President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed steadfast Syria's determination to confront and make the confrontations with the fascist Zionists and their protectors in the United States into a developed formula of pan-Arab and national giving, thus making it impossible to hesitate in the face of the increasing imperialist challenge against our Arab masses' will.

Since Israel found the events in Lebanon and the enemies of the unity of Lebanon's sons and soil to be pretexts for its direct intervention in Arab affairs, the need has arisen for a resounding voice, a power to challenge Israel and a will to serve our Arab nation's basic aspirations.

It was at this point that the role of Ba'thist and Arab Syria became prominent, a role that has always been loyal to unwavering principles and committed to the declared goals of confrontation and liberation of the usurped soil.

Since the battle, which is being led by Arab Syria with all its material potential and the wieght it carries among the masses, sincerely reflects loyalty to the Arab will in general, it behooves the Arab nation to measure up to the level of the issue which Syria has always been and still is concerned to defend and protect. In fact, Syria is working persistently to achieve the victory of this issue.

Under the circumstances, when events seem to be greater than the size of the Arab decision, President al-Asad declared that Syria is determined to protect Lebanon and defend the Arab individual. It is in this that the strength of the decision lies. It is also through this that the role of the Arab masses in making the decision to achieve victory becomes greater.

Although Syria is aware of the nature of these events and of the strength of the aggressive parties, it considers itself at the same time the owner of right and a just demand, which gives it pan-Arab importance and allows it to deal with events from the premise of the masses' will without paying attention to the logic of force, which has always been adopted by Israel as the only method in its dealings, in order to serve its expansionist goals at the expense of the Arab individual and soil. Israel, which is used to waging aggression and being insubordinate to the will of the international community, is persistently seeking, through direct intervention into Lebanese affairs, to impose its will on all the Arabs and order them to do as it wishes.

Herein lies the importance of Syria's steadfastness, be this on the Lebanese or pan-Arab level. The Camp David accords, which have collapsed and become even more handicapped than their agent As-Sadat, will only succeed through a unified imperialist-Zionist stand. However, Syria is aware of this and the threats it poses. This is why it has adopted its brave stand and made the agressive parties sense that our nation is capable of championing its rights, however great the strength of the aggressors may be and however determined they are to entrench aggression.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE BA'TH OFFICIAL

JN181703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Damascus--At 1430 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Comrade 'Asim Qansuh, member of the National Command and the regional secretary of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon. They discussed the latest development in the Lebanese situation, the situation in the Arab region, the tasks prepared by the hostile plans and the Zionist threats to the Arab masses and their national and pan-Arab forces.

AL-AHMAR RECEIVES PALESTINE COUNCIL SPEAKER

JN181721 Demascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Damascus--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council, at 1200 today. They reviewed developments in the Lebanese arena and the Israeli escalation against Syria, the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement.

Comrade al-Ahmar also received the members of the Permanent Secretariat of the African and Asian Writers Union this morning. During this meeting Comrade al-Ahmar spoke about the situation in the Arab region and the present tense atmosphere due to the imperialist-Zionist aggression being prepared by the United States and Israel against Syria, the Lebanese people and the Palestinian resistance.

Comrade al-Ahmar explained that the imperialist-Zionist scheme, which began with the victories of the Arab nation in the October War and escalated after the Camp David agreement and Egypt's departure from the battle against the Zionist enemy, is aimed at the forces of Arab steadfastness, particularly Syria, which stood to confront the imperialist-U.S.-Zionist-reactionary scheme and stop its implementation.

He added that, when we took the necessary defensive measures and shouldered our duty in protecting the Palestinian resistance, Lebanon's unity and Arabism and our forces, imperialism and Zionism raised hell and began preparing for a large-scale aggression against Syria under the propaganda screen that Syria had changed the situation in the region and violated its strategic balance. He added that Syria would firmly and with all its capabilities confront any Israeli aggression. He said that Syria would not be alone in the battle because all the Arab masses and all world national and progressive forces would side by it. Syria is strong in its people and its friends. It will defend the Arab nation in its battle until victory.

Comrade Sirkhar Azimov, secretary general of the African and Asian Union, spoke. He stressed that the African and Asian writers stand by Syria in its confrontation of the aggressive designs of the United States, Israel and reactionary forces. He also expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people's just struggle.

The delegations of members of the Permanent Secretariat of the African and Asian Writers Union left Damascus this afternoon.

ALGERIAN ENVOY CONVEYS MESSAGE TO AL-ASAD, DEPARTS

JN161831 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] At 1230 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, Algerian minister of the presidency and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's personal envoy. The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

Dr Ibrahimi conveyed a message to his excellency the president from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with bilateral cooperation and Algeria's role, within the framework of this cooperation, in the confrontation of Israeli aggression. The message also deals with the general situation in the Arab region.

At the end of the meeting President Hafiz al-Asad requested Dr Ibrahimi to convey his greetings to President Chadli Bendjedid.

Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi left Damascus this evening after a short visit.

MOROCCAN ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE TO AL-ASAD

JN181252 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] At 1215 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Ahmed Bensouda, adviser and personal envoy of Moroccan King Hassan II, who conveyed greetings and a message from King Hassan to President Hafiz al-Asad. The message deals with the situation in northwest Africa. Ahmed Bensouda expressed Morocco's full support for the Syrian people in confronting the challenges. The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, the Moroccan ambassador in Damascus and the delegation accompanying Bensouda. The discussions during the meeting centered on the situation in the Arab east and Maghreb as well as the challenges facing the Arab nation.

IRAN'S HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI VISITS, HOLDS TALKS

Arrival Statement

JN171249 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Damascus--An Iranian delegation led by Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, deputy prime minister for political affairs, arrived in Damascus this morning on a visit to Syria lasting several days.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that he brought a message for President Hafiz al-Asad from Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i. He asserted that the plot in Lebanon is part of the U.S. imperialist plots against the region. Our visit to Syria, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added, is a declaration of our solidarity with the Syrian stand and a denunciation of Israel's attacks and plots against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and Lebanon, as well as its hostile intentions against steadfast Syria. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The United States is still exerting all efforts and planning to consolidate its strategy and power in the region. We feel that it is our responsibility to foil the plot.

Al-Asad Meeting

JN181859 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] At 1900 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Iranian deputy prime minister for political affairs, accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Hoseyn, representative of the Iranian Islamic revolution guard; Shahpur Zohdi and Khalil al-Wa'iz, advisers in the revolution guard; and Hasan Mallak and Hasan al-Bashir, the prime ministers' advisers.

The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, and Hasan Bohani, Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani conveyed a message from Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i to President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks during the meeting dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the region and the Zionist and imperialist threats against the Arab nation and the Iranian people.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani asserted Iran's support for Syria in repulsing these threats and firmly standing against and confronting the Zionist and imperialist challenges.

Khaddam Talks

JN172057 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] At 1830 today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, met with Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Iranian deputy prime minister for political affairs, and his delegation.

The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister; Munir Musa Basha, head of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Department; and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

Discussions were held on bilateral relations and the current situation in the region.

DAMASCUS NOTES UAE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT

JN180926 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi--The UAE has asserted its support and assistance to Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people in confronting the Zionist enemy, who is threatening to launch aggression and war.

KUWAITI AMIR TELEPHONES SUPPORT TO AL-ASAD

JN190924 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] Damascus--Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah today phoned President Hafiz al-Asad within the framework of consultations and the exchange of views between the two fraternal countries on the situation in the area. The Kuwaiti amir asserted that he personally and Kuwait--government and people--appreciate Syria's steadfast stand in confronting the Zionist challenges and threats and Syria's burdens in defending the Arab nation's dignity and future. His highness reiterated Kuwait's support, with all its capabilities, for Syria in its steadfast confrontation of the enemy.

BEGIN ON HABIB MISSION, SAUDI ROLE, SOVIET FLEET

TA181223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has said that U.S. Envoy Philip Habib will likely return to Jerusalem this evening or tomorrow. His schedule is not yet clear. Today, Habib met in Damascus with the Syrian president, and Begin said that when he arrived in Israel, the situation regarding Lebanon would become clearer. He was speaking with our correspondent after giving a comprehensive report on Lebanon to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee.

Begin was asked whether the cessation of Saudi aid to Syria was a positive step. He replied that Saudi Arabia was incapable of playing any useful or positive role. This is a reactionary, medieval regime, the prime minister said, and with its immense accumulated wealth it is creating an armory for use against Israel.

On the movements of the Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean, Begin said that this was a considerable naval concentration--about a dozen warships--but its movement was natural. The U.S. Navy also has two aircraft carriers as well as auxiliary vessels near the Israeli coast.

Begin said that he would put the suggestion of the Labor Party chairman to consult with the opposition on the Lebanese crisis to the next Cabinet session. He himself adamantly refused to express an opinion on this proposal. However, Alignment MK Yosi Sarid, a member of the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, stated after the session that it was his impression that the prime minister would not accept the proposal, and that he did not intend to--as Sarid put it--remove the crisis from the election campaign. Our correspondent notes that there was a sharp exchange at the meeting between Begin and Peres on this matter. Each accused the other of personal attacks, of mixing election matters with the missile crisis in Lebanon, and of corrupting the style of political debate in the country. Peres claimed that Begin had never remarked to his ministers on their use of terms such as treason in reference to opposition members, adding that the prime minister was running political and military affairs from Likud Party headquarters. The prime minister retorted that the opposition was not behaving as a loyal opposition, as the Likud did when it backed the government during periods of crisis and emergency.

Further Report

TA181612 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said that Saudi Arabia cannot play a beneficial role in moderating Syria's stance on the Lebanese missile crisis. Referring to U.S. envoy Philip Habib's talks with Prince Fahd, Begin said he could not assess what Fahd or any other Saudi prince might do. The prime minister spoke with correspondents after the meeting of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. Our correspondent, Moshe Hakohen, reports on the meeting and on Begin's remarks afterward.

[Begin recording] The prime minister gave the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee a comprehensive, political and security report on the Lebanese crisis. Among other things, he confirmed that the Syrians had renewed their use of helicopters to attack Christian positions on Mount Sannin. Upon emerging from the committee room, the prime minister told correspondents he was awaiting the return of U.S. Envoy Philip Habib from his talks with Al-Asad in Damascus. However, the prime minister made it clear he did not place any hopes on Saudi mediation in the crisis.

[Begin--in English] In my opinion, Saudi Arabia is not capable of playing any useful role whatsoever. It is one of the most corrupt states in the world. One American statesman told me once: Saudi Arabia is not a state, it is a family.

[Hakohen] Begin said the Saudi Regime was weak and might collapse any day just as in Iran. He also added he could not understand how one could treat Saudi Arabia as a moderate element when it declared a holy war against Israel.

The Alignment's candidate for foreign minister, MK Abba Eban, disagreed with the prime minister.

[Eben] I think nothing should make us despair of the diplomatic move. If the U.S. representative sees a point in holding consultations in Riyadh, I do not see any reason why this effort should be made light of. I think that every day in which Philip Habib continues his efforts may let steam out of the inflamed atmosphere. He may find the right formula.

[Hakohen] In the course of his remarks, the prime minister also addressed himself to President al-Asad's declaration that Syria will not remove its missiles from Lebanon. Some presidents express themselves differently in private--Begin states--although I do not know whether this holds true for President al-Asad. At any rate, I am optimistic, Begin said. Referring to the Soviet naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean, the prime minister said one should take a serious view of this phenomenon. There are a dozen Soviet warships--most importantly, the Moskova helicopter carrier--sailing between the shores of Cyprus, Lebanon and Israel. It is no surprise, then, that the United States has decided to transfer two U.S. aircraft carriers to the region. However, Begin said he did not fear a confrontation between the superpowers.

[Begin] I am optimistic. This has happened before. The navies of both superpowers cruised the Mediterranean, including its eastern part, many times in the past and nothing happened. [end recording]

MORE SYRIAN MISSILES REPORTEDLY IN LEBANON

TA181229 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 May 81 pp 1, 7

[Yehoshu'a Halamish and Eytan Haber report: "Syria Has Introduced More SAM's Into Lebanon"]

[Excerpt] Syria has introduced more SAM-6 batteries into Lebanon and eyewitnesses saw how the missiles were brought from the Syrian border to the Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon.

The Syrians are beefing up the missile batteries, building dugouts and bringing in more antiaircraft artillery units to defend the missile sites.

HA'ARETZ: SAUDIS ON ALERT NEAR JORDANIAN BORDER

TA190923 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 May 81 p 1

[Military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff report: "Alert in the Saudi Army"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia has put some of its army units on alert, mainly in the vicinity of the Tabuk bases close to the Jordanian border. This was probably done to convince the Syrians that Saudi Arabia would support them in their conflict with Israel and in the event that Israel initiates a war.

The alert was called about a week ago. According to Israeli sources, this move attests to the two-faced behavior of Saudi Arabia in the behind-the-scenes mediation efforts it is conducting on the missile crisis. On the one hand, Saudi Arabia was at pains to convince Al-Asad to agree to U.S. mediation efforts, led by Special Envoy Philip Habib, and has already promised the United States an achievement. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia promised Al-Asad that if the negotiations should fail after Syria has shown flexibility, the Saudis would support Syria in the event that Israel initiated a war. The alert called in the Tabuk region is a Saudi signal to both Syria and Israel.

The Tabuk camps are located about 200 km from the Saudi-Jordanian border and constitute the largest Saudi military concentration near Elat. It was from these bases that the Saudi contingent that attacked Israel on the Golan Heights (during the Yom Kippur war) set out. There are training bases in the region as well as paratroop and armor corps camps, an airbase, fighter planes and large storage depots.

EYEWITNESSES REPORT LIBYAN SOLDIERS IN BEIRUT

TA190940 Jerusalem POST in English 19 May 81 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Reports Say Libyan Soldiers in Beirut"]

[Text] Travellers from Beirut reaching south Lebanon yesterday said they saw Libyan soldiers in the hotel area of the Lebanese capital.

The travellers said the soldiers wore Libyan military uniforms.

A Libyan SAM-9 battery was reported by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to have been moved into Lebanon by the Syrians in recent weeks.

STERNER, KIMCHE DISCUSS SINAI FORCE 18 MAY

TA181943 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Special U.S. Ambassador Michael Sterner met with Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem today to discuss the multinational force that will be set up in the Sinai to supervise the peace treaty. Sterner arrived in Jerusalem after a talk with Egyptian President as-Sadat.

Tomorrow, he will meet Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Apparently, the discussions will continue in tripartite meetings among Israeli, U.S. and Egyptian representatives in Cairo next week. Our correspondent, Menashe Raz, adds that tomorrow it will become clear if there is a solution to some of the problems, such as the location of the force's soldiers, the kinds of patrols that will be conducted, the equipment to be used and whether Israel will transfer several of the installations it will vacate to the multinational force.

MA'ARIV: Difficulties in Talks

TA191103 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 May 81 p 1

[Political correspondent Ilan Kfir report: "Difficulties in the Negotiations for the Establishment of the Sinai Policing Force"]

[Text] Difficulties have cropped up in the negotiations currently underway in Jerusalem between the United States and Israel [on the establishment of the multinational force for the supervision of the Sinai] because of an inflexible Egyptian position on some clauses.

Egypt objects to the deployment of a substantial part of the force in the Gulf of Shlomo and wants to limit the force's operational authority in the area. Israel, on the other hand, has demanded that the largest part of the multinational force be stationed in the Gulf of Shlomo to guarantee freedom of passage through the Tiran Straits.

Yesterday during the negotiations, the head of the U.S. delegation to the talks, Michael Sterner, reported on his talks in Cairo, including his meeting with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. Sterner said that Egypt favored the establishment of the force but was trying to limit the scope of its activity, authority and areas of responsibility as much as possible.

Today, the U.S. delegations will hold an additional round of talks and next week there will be a meeting of the U.S., Israeli and Egyptian delegations in Cairo in an attempt to advance the agreement for the establishment of the force.

POLL SEES INFLATION AS LIKUD'S MAIN FAILING

TA181111 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 May 81 p 3

[Pori public opinion poll: "The Majority of the Public Thinks Inflation Is the Likud's Main Failure"]

[Text] The majority of the public thinks that the Likud government's main failure during its 4 years in office lies in the economic field. A large majority regards the government's main achievement to be the peace agreement with Egypt. These are the conclusions from the nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the Pori Institute at the request of HA'ARETZ. When asked, "What is the worst thing this government has done, in your opinion, during its 4 years in office?" 50.1 percent noted inflation as the "worst" thing. Another 3.5 percent noted the problems of financial distress and the social-sectoral gap, and 1.2 percent complained about the lack of aid for young couples.

The return of Sinai and the oilfields were regarded by 9.3 percent as the greatest mistake made by the government and 1 percent regarded the settlements [in the territories] and the support for Gush Emunim as the most negative thing. The government's main blunder is seen by 6 percent as its lack of firmness, partial functioning and squabbles between ministers.

Less than 1 percent noted the coalition with Agudat Yisra'el and the religious parties in general as being negative, as well as the increase in crime and drugs, the passing of the Jerusalem law, the nonapproval of the national health law and the lack of progress in implementing peace.

The very fact of the Likud's having come to power was regarded by 3.5 percent as the most negative thing from all aspects, but 22 percent said that the Likud government "has not done anything bad."

When asked, "What is the best thing the government has done, in your opinion, during its 4 years in office?" 62.8 percent noted the support for the peace agreement with Egypt; 2.1 percent noted the settlements and the establishment of observation points as the most positive thing; and 1.6 percent noted the feeling of security in the country and the success of the war against the terrorists as the greatest achievement of the Likud government.

The economic policy of lowering prices, absorbing money and the economic revolution was regarded by 5.4 percent as the government's most positive act.

Achievements in education and the closing of social gaps were noted by 1.1 percent. Less than 1 percent noted achievements in the rehabilitation of poverty-stricken neighborhoods, the war against crime and religious legislation.

One percent said that the very fact that the Likud had come to power was the most positive thing from all aspects, but 23.8 percent could not note any outstanding positive act by the government. The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women interviewed personally.

KNESSET APPROVES NEW NAME FOR POLITICAL FACTION

TA191054 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 May 81

[Text] A Knesset committee has approved a change to the name of MK Shulamit Aloni's Citizen's Rights Movement. Aloni asked that the word peace be added to the movement's name. Therefore, it will from now on be called the Movement for Citizens' Rights and Peace.

ALGERIA

ALGERIA ASKS FOR URGENT ARAB LEAGUE MEETING

LD181218 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Algeria today officially asked for an urgent extraordinary meeting on the Arab League Council to study the current situation in the Middle East following repeated threats and aggression by the Zionists. The Algerian Government today asked Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to begin preparations for convening an Arab foreign ministers conference.

LIBYA

PEOPLE'S BUREAU RELATIONS WITH U.S. EXPLAINED

LD190732 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Sources at the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau have stated that the people's committee which was recently set up by the student masses to run the Libyan People's Bureau in the United States and to work for laying the foundations of the pillars of cooperation between the Libyan Arab and American peoples has been accredited by the students' conferences in the Jamahiriyah and by the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau. These sources have explained that members of the people's committees of the people's bureaus are not diplomats, because after the establishment of the people's authority in the Jamahiriyah there was no longer government or foreign ministry in the Jamahiriyah, but rather a people's committee responsible for foreign affairs; it is the Liaison between the Libyan people and other peoples.

The sources have pointed out that members of the people's bureau deported by the American Government were not diplomats and were not appointed by anyone, but were chosen by the Libyan people themselves. The sources have pointed out that if the United States does not believe in the fact that sound relations are those which are established directly between peoples, then the American Government thinks in a way that is behind the thinking of the era of the masses which the Libyan people are experiencing. The sources have explained that we in the Jamahiriyah, following the establishment of people's authority in 1977, have gone beyond the stage of traditional relations which is represented by the president, the government, the ambassador and the embassy. The sources stressed that common ties among the peoples of the world and the intermingling of interests are the basis on which relations among all peoples must be built, and that we in the Jamahiriyah welcome the establishment of popular relations with all the peoples of the world within the framework of mutual respect and common interests.

AL-QADHDHAFI HOSTS BANQUET FOR OAU CHAIRMAN

LD171024 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] The brother commander yesterday met with Dr Siaka Stevens, the president of Sierra Leone and the current OAU chairman. The meeting was followed by a plenary meeting attended by members of both delegations and OAU Secretary General Adem Kojo.

The brother commander held a banquet in honor of the OAU chairman last night, which was attended by Adem Kojo and his aides. Also present were Brig Gen Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief of the armed forces and members of the General People's Committee and members of the diplomatic and political corps accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

Speaking at the dinner banquet, the brother commander welcomed the current OAU chairman, the OAU secretary general and his aides. He said: I welcome the brother president as president of Sierra Leone and as chairman of the OAU. I thank him for cutting short his holiday and accepting the invitation to visit our country together with the OAU secretary general and his sides. I believe that his presence among us today, together with the secretary general and his aides, has great significancce and extreme importance.

I wish to express my satisfaction with the talks we had today in the presence of the OAU secretary general concerning African issues, which are of interest to the entire African Continent. I am pleased to note that our views are identical on the common African issues. We allocated sufficient time in our talks today to a number of issues of vital importance to Africa, the commander said. He added: The most important to these issues were the questions of Chad and the Sahara, on which our views were fully identical.

I thank the OAU chairman for the appreciation he expressed during the talks for Libya's positive role in ending the 20-year-old war in Chad. The OAU chairman noted that because of Libya's efforts, peace, security and stability have returned to Chad after 20 years of fighting and civil war. Dr Stevens also expressed the OAU's appreciation for Libya's efforts to achieve peace in Chad at a time when all other efforts of the Chadian National Government to obtain the help of other African forces failed to end the war.

Dr Stevens has been notified that the Libyan forces which established peace and stability in Chad have now begun to withdraw and are being replaced by Chadian units. Thus, the Libyan forces will be gradually withdrawn as soon as national Chadian units are formed to replace them. The brother commander said: In our talks today, the OAU secretary general and his aides expressed great appreciation for this plan, which will help Chad to build its own forces and to gradually replace Libyan forces. For our part, we affirmed that this should not mean that we oppose the entry of any other African forces into Chad. However, we came to the conclusion in our talks that it is too late for this and that it is not necessary for other African countries to take the trouble of sending forces to Chad now that security and order prevail there and now that Libyan forces have begun to withdraw following the formation of Chadian national forces.

The brother commander added: We agreed in our talks on the importance of holding a limited African summit soon, with the participation of specific countries, the Chadian dossier once and for all. Libya is prepared to attend this final, limited conference, which will end the Chadian problem and close its dossier for good.

We expressed our appreciation for any joint African effort to help the Chadian people rebuild after the devastations of the civil war. This reconstruction effort now falls entirely on the shoulders of the African country of Libya.

We also noted our awareness of the deteriorating conditions in the Western Sahara. If conditions continue as they are now, then a more serious deterioration may take place in that area, thereby widening the sphere of the war. We came to the conclusion that the only way to tackle this problem is through a peaceful effort to end this tragedy. This is the same path already followed by a large number of African countries which have recognized the SDAR, including Sierra Leone and Libya. Other African countries should follow this path so that the SDAR may acquire official membership in the OAU.

The brother commander pointed out that the efforts of the 27 OAU member states which have recognized the SDAR are positive efforts that will bring about peace. The recognition of the Saharan Republic by such a large number of countries means that it has secured the necessary support to become an OAU member. In view of this, the Moroccan Government is fighting an illegal war because it is fighting against an independent country which has won the right to become an OAU member.

Without a solution to this issue, more fighting will occur and the war will certainly escalate, resulting in serious deterioration in the Arab Maghreb region. This is because the Saharan people are determined to continue fighting until they attain their independence.

The brother commander said: We reached complete agreement on all issues. For our part, we appreciate the efforts exerted by President Stevens in his capacity as OAU chairman to solve African problems and to increase African solidarity and unity. The experience and wisdom of President Stevens has made a positive contribution to the solution of African issues. Tangible successes have been achieved during his chairmanship, with the help of the OAU secretary general.

We also discussed the importance of granting wider powers to the OAU secretary general so that he can increase his effectiveness.

The brother commander added: I express my satisfaction with the development of friendship and cooperation between Libya and Sierra Leone. We declare that we have no reservations regarding the development of our relations with Sierra Leone. Following this visit, our relations will witness new development. All of this is due to Dr Stevens' visit to his second country--Libya. Once more, I express my gratitude to you, Mr President, for providing us with this opportunity to meet. Thank you.

Dr Siaka Stevens, the current OAU chairman and president of Sierra Leone, also spoke during the banquet. He expressed his gratitude for the welcome and hospitality shown to him. He added: We must acknowledge that you have brought peace, calm and security to Chad. In this connection, your efforts are in accord with those exerted by the OAU to establish peace in Chad.

The aim of the OAU at present, he said, is to reinforce and complete the road you have begun so that a greater degree of peace and stability can exist in this country. I am confident that our talks and our summit meeting will help to establish peace and end the problem at its roots and thereby end all existing disputes.

I have visited about 13 African countries. I have also visited China and I had planned for some time to visit your country. I am extremely happy with my visit now. You are an OAU member and you work for peace as does the OAU. For this reason, we agree that through cooperation we will achieve peace and end conflicts.

During our meeting this afternoon, I told you that there is a great opportunity to establish peace. We are all working to provide the Chadian people with the opportunity to elect the legitimate government that will govern them.

With regard to the Saharan issue, the current OAU chairman said: I can say that the Polisario has the support which entitles it to become an OAU member. Efforts to accept the Polisario as a full OAU member at the OAU conference in Nairobi will begin within the next 2 months.

Dr Stevens added: I can say that the OAU has succeeded in persevering despite the numerous problems it has faced. It will, in the end, achieve what it is seeking. We express our thanks to all African countries, and particularly to those African countries which have offered help and which have tried their best to insure the success of the OAU. I wish your great country all success. I hope that the African peoples and members of the OAU will work to establish cooperation among themselves for the good of all.

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEAKS ON PALESTINE USURPATION DAY

LD151926 Tripoli JANA in English 1646 GMT 15 May 81

[For another version--live but from poor reception--of the speech below by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, see the 15 May DAILY REPORT, page Q 3]

[Text] Tripoli, 15 May (JANA)--The leader of the revolution has affirmed that it was the Palestinian who was fighting and dying while the rest of the Arabs were feeling ashamed because they did not fight.

In a speech he delivered yesterday before the Arab masses participating in the mass rally held on the occasion of the thirty third anniversary of Palestine usurpation, the leader said: "The Palestinian people is sacrificing its children everyday, the Lebanese people is faced with threat and destruction, and the threat is also directed against Syria, the last trench in the northern front."

He added, "We announce to America, and we are free to do so, that any weapons the Palestinian resistance can use we are ready to supply them and buy them even if their weight is in gold."

The leader of the revolution also indicated that the Zionist enemy for thirty three years has been achieving successive successes in the application of its strategic plan to establish a Zionist state in the heart of the Arab homeland. The leader warned that "if the enemy's advance intensifies in front of an Arab retrogression, as it is the case now, we will witness, in coming years, a bad situation affecting even the Arab existence itself." He added, "The question is no longer a question of independence or lack of independence, but a question of existence of nonexistence."

He went on to say, "Arab existence on the Arab homeland is really threatened now by the U.S. bases and American protection which constitutes a strategic umbrella for a Zionist advance which adopts a step-by-step manoeuvre." He indicated that "after thirty years, the Zionist enemy reached Jerusalem and made it its so-called capital, and it means that it continues to apply this strategy under the U.S. umbrella, which umbrella also succeeded in getting a foot on Arab soil and setting up bases in Egypt, Sudan, Oman, Somalia and other parts of the Arab world where camps are ready for U.S. troops, and where their airports, harbours, streets and even their houses are U.S. property."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called upon the Palestinian revolutionary command to mobilize all Palestinian forces all over the world, materially and morally, and open the door wide to have the honour of fighting and dying for Palestine.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that the Lebanese Government should define its stand clearly, either accept Arab forces to come to defend Lebanon or accept Israeli forces over its soil. "With its present attitude, the Lebanese Government makes the man of the street wonder why the Arabs take such a negative stand towards an Arab League member." Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called upon the Lebanese Government to allow Arab troops in Lebanon and then the Arab rulers will reveal their real identity whether they are with the Arab nation of against it.

"The aim of the Israelis is to deal a blow to the Arab nation. They have occupied part of Lebanon on their way to Syria and Jordan. Egypt's turn will come later as the Israeli withdrawals from Arish and Sinai are only metaphorical, as Egyptian forces are not allowed to replace Israeli troops."

The leader continues, "The Syrian missiles in dispute should cover the skies of southern Lebanon to make it impossible for the Israeli planes to penetrate into the Lebanese airspace."

"The Libyans are ready to deploy missiles on the Lebanese territory for that purpose. We make this offer again to the Lebanese Government, as we already extended this offer over two years ago."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi wondered why the Israeli planes have the right to strike against Syrian forces along the borders of Syria, "while we are denied the right to destroy Sa'd Haddad's positions and forces?" The Arab planes should start daily raids on Haddad's enclave at least and the Arab forces should form an umbrella to the Palestinian resistance to enable it liberate Palestine and destroy the Israeli settlements there.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that most Arabs thought talks were useless, against the Israeli escalated attacks and air raids on Palestinian camps, Lebanese cities and Arab troops.

"We are, however, forced into talks, even though we share the view of those who are tired of talks."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said in his speech before the Arab masses who took part in the 33rd anniversary of Palestinian usurpation: "We heard the speech of the leader of the Palestinian revolution, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], because he has the right to speak. It is the Palestinisn who fights and dies and does not believe in talks. But we, the other Arabs, feel ashamed as we did not fight. It is the Palestinian people who fight and their children die daily, and behind them stand the Lebanese people who were exposed to threat and destruction. It is also directed against Syria, the last trench in northern front.

The leader added, "The Palestinians, more than anyone else, have the right to speak loudly, because every day they fight with their lives in their hands. It is very important to hear the voice of the Palestinian resistance leader in such hours, when the Israelis stage raids against the Lebanese cities and Palestinian forces and camps. Because the stronger this voice is the stronger the fighters will be. Those who talk and do nothing should be ashamed of themselves, and it is a shame that the rest of the Arabs do not join in the fight."

"I have the utmost pleasure, and in this particular time, to have 'Abu Ammar, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu Tariq [Sulaymen ash-Shurafa', Fatah representative in Libya] from Fatah's command with us here together with the rest of the leaders and secretaries of the P.F.L.P., D.F.L.P., P.F.L.P.-General Command and As-Sa'qah."

"The Libyans in particular and the Arabs in general, consider this gathering with the leaders of Palestinian people as very important and resembles a real answer to the malicious sides which rejoiced at the existence of a crisis between Libya and Fatah." He affirmed "there should be no crisis between Al-Fateh Revolution and the Palestinian revolution, because no contradiction can be found between them, and there should be no contradiction."

The leader wondered why there was a so-called crisis in the past, and said, "Maybe there was a hidden hand behind everything that happened." He added, "The Palestinians should not be blamed by the Arabs, and we will not betray the Palestinian leadership unless it is betrayed by the Palestinian masses, because the leaders of the Palestinian people cannot be against the revolution, against the revolutionary activity, or against the popular masses, people's congresses, or the revolutionary committees." He also indicated "the Fatah movement is special because it is not a political party, so it would be unlikely and unusual that it contradicts with the movement of the Palestinian people's congresses and revolutionary committees."

The leader stressed the importance of increasing popular congresses between the Jamahiriyah and the Palestinian people, for all the world know that behind the Palestinian leadership, there is a people who refuse to be conquered. Through these congresses the Palestinian people will make its existence felt by its enemies and through this existence they will fight and refuse to be occupied. For he knows that this leadership is guiding a people and that the Palestinian occupied land has a people that exist and by that, we mean not just regionally, in any Arab country or just anywhere, but these congresses, about which our views were almost identical as to their importance people's congresses and revolutionary committees.

The leader wondered what the world's position would be towards the establishment of hundreds of Palestinian peoples congresses and revolutionary committees, given that it already recognized the resolutions of the Palestinian National Council. He said: "This does not mean the absence of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. If there was a discussion on this issue a formula would be reached for the creation of people's congresses and revolutionary committees under the umbrella of the P.L.O. which we talk about everywhere and support, and show to the world as the sole representative of the Palestinian people so that no other merchant after As-Sadat comes and does what As-Sadat is doing now in the conspiracy of autonomy to have the Palestinian people represented by a group of traitors."

He went on to say "as Arabs we are all agreed and committed to affirm the character of the PLO at least in the phase of liberation struggle until Palestine is liberated, and after this the form of the regime is not important because these matters come in their own time, but temporarily now we stress the importance of the PLO and consider it the militant essence of the Palestinian." He added "so long as all Palestinians are supporting the PLO inside the occupied land and outside, no one has the right to exclude it and we must preserve it, support and back it internationally so that world knows that this organization is the legitimate sole representative of the Palestinian people."

The leader continued: "The evidence is that there is no contradiction between the PLO and the free will of the Palestinian masses to form their own people's congresses and committees. In Libya now, there are Palestinian people's congresses and revolutionary committees in the same time we have here with us the command of the PLO. He who is in contradiction with the freedom of the masses, he is in contradiction with democracy."

"Our stand was and still is quite clear. We are with the Palestinian masses and their freedom. We allow no oppression to be exercised on them, at home and abroad. It is enough that they are humiliated and repressed inside the occupied land. Let them be free in unoccupied Arab lands such as Libya."

"Therefore, the Palestinian masses have to exercise their freedom in this arena, they should be allowed to express their view in support of the P.L.O. and Palestinian resistance command."

"I do not believe that the freedom of masses is a threat on their cause. On the contrary, when the masses are free, they win their cause. On the other hand, people who do not control their destinies eventually lose all their causes".

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi then called upon the Palestinian masses to back financially and morally their leadership when the masses, he said become free, then, they can organize themselves in people's congresses." He added "the Palestinian should not listen to any one, but to judge things according to their conscience and in the interests of their cause. They should not put themselves under Arab rulers' control as this would mean the liquidation of the Palestinian cause. The Great al-Fateh Revolution will always stand in support of the Palestinian masses inside and outside the occupied territories".

He added: No one has the right to interfere in the Palestinian internal affairs at this particular stage, or to oppose the approach or the arrangements they choose.

"We will always stand on the side of the Palestinians all the way along until victory or death", he said.

The leader asserted that there is a real danger facing the Arab nation and that the enemy had been aware of this Arab retreat and helplessness especially after the losing war waged by Iraq against Iran. The war against the Iranian revolution is being financed on behalf of America, the leader explained, asserting that such matter causes a big Arab loss.

The leader added that enemy became aware of this strategic disorder and surprised us with conditions unheard of before in the long history of man. And today the enemy sent a reconnaissance plane for gathering information about the Syrian territories and forces, which the Syrians shot down.

The enemy may decide to invade Syria or attack its forces in Lebanon with the aim of taking more revenge on the Palestinians and on the Lebanese.

The leader explained that Syrian missiles are positioned to the north-east of Beirut much nearer to Syria than to the rest of Lebanon. The Syrian forces in Lebanon which the Israelis attacked downing two Syrian helicopters which were carrying supplies to the Syrian forces. [sentence as received]

This forced Syria to deploy its air defence as a cover to its forces, which led the Israelis to demand the withdrawal of these missiles, so that the Syrian forces, with no air defence, would be vulnerable to Israeli attacks.

The leader described the Israeli demand as the last challenge and the last humiliation, such as to make one wish that he had never existed at this moment of time in the area between the ocean and the Gulf. "The (Israelis) say their planes can take reconnaissance missions over Syria and Lebanon gathering information about the positions of the Palestinians so that it could hit them more accurately. But you Arabs have no right to protest or to hit the planes with missiles, because of Israeli aggression, Lebanon as a state lost its independence, the leader added.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi pointed out "the (Israeli) aircrafts are flying over Beirut, the capital of an Arab country, member of the Arab League and the United Nation. The two Lebanese cities of Tyre and Sidon have been totally destructed by the enemy naval units which docking along the Lebanese shores. In addition to all this, (Israel) has designs over Syria and asked her to remove her air defence equipments. Who knows, tomorrow (Israeli) forces might enter the houses and start giving orders to the people living there, he added. All these indication, prove that a decisive decision to confront the enemy has not been taken yet.

The Arab nation is passing through a critical conditions despite its rich human resources of weapons, wealth and vast territories extends from the ocean to the Gulf. Despite the attempts aimed at isolating Syria, she will remain an obstacle to (Israel) whose aim is to occupy Arab lands up to the Euphrates, Tigris and the Gulf.

The leader criticized the stance of some Arab countries on the P.L.O. and their failure to back it. He singled out Saudi Arabia for not offering the PLO the desired aid, while hosting conferences and calling for the liberation of Jerusalem. We ask Saudi Arabia to use all its economic and military capabilities and proceed towards the liberation of Jerusalem he said. The leader questioned their role and wondered about their arms and the returns of the vast oil wealth which goes to America and the funds are spent lavishly on personal needs. While the (Israeli) bombardment of refugee camps, the destruction of Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution in that country is attacked and Syria is constantly provoked by the enemy. The leader said that "Saudi Arabia produces 12 million barrels of oil a day, while Kuwait has reduced its normal production recently which is only two million barrels in order to preserve the Arab wealth.

The leader referred to the recent American decision concerning the expulsion of members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau and said "America claims that Libya support terrorism, but what sort of terrorism does she mean? The sort of terrorism that America is referring to is the unconditional Libyan support of the Palestinian cause and the armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine.

He said "if America thinks that we submit to their pressure in order to stop our support for the Palestinian, we tell them, that we will never retreat.

"Through this filthy policy, the U.S.A. thinks that people might give in and give up their principle. And again we would like to tell them that if the whole world became hostile towards us, we will not give up our principles. After listening to the Palestinian leaders, we here again pledge our everlasting support for the Palestinian armed struggle until victory or martyrdom".

"The American should understand that we control our own destiny and we decided to arm the Palestinian resistance even if we have to sell our personal belongings."

"The U.S. policy towards us is a failure and a losing one, and if America decided to fight us, we will fight back. And we are very ready for that. We had fought the Italian for sixty years. The American will find another Vietnam here if he decided to come.

ARMY CHIEF RECEIVES LEBANESE BA'TH, PLO OFFICIALS

LD172018 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] The commander in chief of the armed forces, Brig Gen Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir this morning received Brother Qunswah, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Ba'th Party and regional secretary general of the Ba'th in Lebanon. He also received 'Abd al-Rahim Murad, the secretary general of the Arab National Union in Lebanon. He also received Brother Abu al-Hul, member of the Fatah Central Committee and brother Abu Tariq, [Sulayman ash-Shurafa'], director of the PLO office in the Jamahiriyah.

WESTERN SAHARA

ABDELAZIZ SENDS MESSAGE TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL

LD182158 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front and chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic today addressed a message to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. He again drew Waldheim's attention to the state of war and instability which northwest Africa has been experiencing for more than 5 years, stemming from Moroccan aggression. These attacks and the annihilation operations to which the Saharan people are being subjected at the hands of the invading forces of the Rabat regime hinder the path toward decolonization adopted several years ago by the United Nations.

After noting Rabat's persistence in defying the resolutions of various international organizations and bodies, led by the United Nations, by continuing its aggression against the Saharan people, Mohamed Abdelaziz added in his message that following the failure of the closed-file policy and the exposure of its maneuvers aimed at blotting out the true essence of the Saharan issue, the Rabat regime began to exercise many forms of bargaining against Mauritania before attacking it last March. He then pointed out that the false propaganda campaign being launched by the Moroccan royalist regime is aimed at covering up the defeats which its invading forces are still sustaining at the hands of the Saharan fighters, and at concealing the repressive operations and killing which these forces are carrying out against the Saharan people.

Mohamed Abdelaziz also said [words indistinct] the international community, particularly the United Nations, which should be the guarantor and protector of peoples' rights in accordance with its charter.

After recalling the UN General Assembly's acknowledgement of the illegality of the occupation of the Western Sahara at its 35th session, he stressed that Morocco's refusal to submit to the verdict of the international community cannot be left unpunished indefinitely. In conclusion, Mohamed Abdelaziz requested that the UN firmly resist Rabat's maneuvers and compel it to respect UN resolutions regarding the Saharan issue.

ETHIOPIA

FLN DELEGATION RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT MENGISTU

LD172048 Algiers APS in English 1048 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Algiers, 17 May (APS)--A delegation of FLN Party led by Mr Slimane Hoffman, CC member, chairman of the External Relations Commission, is in Ethiopia since May 12, on a 5-day official visit and was received by Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

On the other hand, the FLN delegation had a series of talks with top officials of the Ethiopian labour party (COPWE) on bilateral relations, the African question and the international situation.

The two parties agreed to strengthen the bilateral cooperation, through the exchange of experiments [as received] and information and reviewed future prospects.

The Ethiopian head of state expressed his wish that solid and durable relations be established between the Algerian and Ethiopian revolutions.

The two parties said about the Horn of Africa that the search of peace and regional concertation should prevail, in conformity with O.A.U. and the Non-Aligned Movement principles. They also reassessed their full support for non-alignment, O.A.U. and just causes.

KENYA

NAIROBI STUDENTS EXPELLED; UNIVERSITY CLOSED

LD181250 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 18 May 81 EA

[Text] Nairobi--Fifteen Nairobi University students have been expelled as a result of demonstrations by students of that university last Friday.

The students demonstrated in support of claims by government doctors who are now on strike, against the order to close down the university for 9 months after the term's examinations, and against the KANU Party decision to bar candidates who want to contest the parliamentary seats for South Busia and Bondo.

Although the university's registrar said that university activities were normal, reports from the students said that following the demonstrations on Friday, 15 of their colleagues were ordered to leave the university immediately.

Indefinite Closure

LD181222 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 18 May 81 EA

[Text] Nairobi University authorities regret to announce the closure of the university, indefinitely and with immediate effect. In a press release issued by the university registrar, Mr Gichuhi, all students were required to have vacated university premises immediately and not later than noon today. Kenyatta University College is not affected by this closure.

GHANA

LIMANN INVITES BRITISH TO STEP UP INVESTMENT

AB151936 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] President Limann has said that there are limitless opportunities for investment in Ghana and has invited British businessmen to step up their activities in the country. The president, who is nearing the end of his official visit to Britain, told a news conference in London today that the new investment code has been designed to rationalize the previous ones, offer incentives and create the proper atmosphere for investments. Consequently, his administration is imposing tight discipline on itself and removing the bottlenecks that cause delays and irritate the business sector.

Dr Limann described his talks with the British prime minister, Mrs Thatcher, and other government officials as useful. The president said Mrs Thatcher has listened with the utmost seriousness and understanding and he is sure she and her government now have a clearer idea about the Ghanaian situation. Dr Limann said their discussions covered a wide range of topics, and he called for aid, particularly for what he described as the priority areas: agriculture and communication, and investments in special areas such as gold mining and oil exploration.

The president also answered some questions about the value of the cedi. Asked when the cedi will be devalued, the president replied that this was a most delicate matter which many people abroad seem to oversimplify. His government, he said, is not going to take any of those hasty measures that have repeatedly failed since 1968.

President Limann was a guest of honor at a luncheon given this afternoon by the lord mayor of London, at which the cream of London businessmen were present. He is rounding off the official part of his visit with a few more engagements today. He will have a meeting with British exporters; call on the archbishop of Canterbury, who met him a year ago in Accra, and have a dinner tonight given by the British Government. According to the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation correspondent on the tour, President Limann's visit was turned out to be a considerable diplomatic success.

IVORY COAST

74-BILLION-CFA-FRANC-LOAN ACCORD SIGNED WITH IMF

AB181330 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 18 May 81

[Excerpt] The international financial community, the IMF, has just granted a loan of 74 billion CFA francs to the Ivory Coast. The loan agreement was signed this morning at the Ministry of Economy and Finance. It will help to finance the financial efforts of our country.

LIBERIA

ACCRA CITES DOE STATEMENT ON LIBYA, USSR EMBASSIES

AB171234 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 May 81

[Text] Liberia has explained why it expelled Libyan diplomats and reduced the number of staff at the Soviet Embassy in Monrovia. According to the military leader, Master Sergeant Doe, the Libyans were sacked because his government was not aware that they had opened a People's Bureau in Liberia. He said the opening should have been done through the diplomatic channel.

Of the Soviet diplomats, Master Sergeant Doe said they were asked to leave because of what he called their unbecoming activities since he came to power.

USSR EMBASSY SAYS NO WORD ON REDUCTION RECEIVED

AB181955 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] Three days after head of state Doe's pronouncement about the reduction of the Soviet Embassy staff from 15 to 6, the Soviet Embassy in Monrovia has disclosed that they have not received directives from the Liberian foreign affairs regarding the reduction and subsequent departure of the staff. When asked by the government newspaper, the NEW LIBERIAN, the charge d'affaires at the Soviet Embassy in Monrovia declined to make further comments on the issue. He told the paper to contact the Foreign Ministry.

WEH SYEN WARNS ADVISERS AGAINST GIVING BAD ADVICE

AB182147 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] The Liberian vice head of state and cochairman of the People's redemption Council [PRC], Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, has warned all PRC and other security advisers to desist from advising the leadership of the country that would tarnish the good image and policies of the PRC Government. [sentence as heard] Speaking to newsmen at his capital building office this morning, Genral Weh Syen said he has observed that the PRC and other security advisers are in the habit of giving leaders ill advice that is not in the interest of the country and its people.

The cochairman said further that when the PRC came to power a year ago, it said that its foreign policy would be based on genuine nonalignment. He said it would be immature to operate against the council's pronouncement, thus making the leaders play a surrogate in our national life and foreign policy. He therefore cautioned the PRC leadership to beware of sheep in wolf skin and called on them to stop listening to (?dictatorial advice) because if they do, our pronouncement of nonalignment would remain a sham.

COMMANDER WARNS OFFICIALS AGAINST PERSONAL AMBITION

AB152029 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] Armed forces commanding general, Brig Gen Thomas A. Quiwonkpa, has said that the People's Redemption Council [PRC] Government would not harbor any government official whose intention was to devote time to the promotion of his future political objective. He said any government officials with political intentions should wait until the army returned to the barracks and cautioned them to resign or desist from using official working hours for personal benefit. General Quiwonkpa was speaking yesterday in (Sankopie), Nimba County at a program [as heard] when he was honored by Nimba county citizens for his brave role played in the Liberian revolution and his recent recovery from an eye illness.

The commanding general also frowned on student political activists and called on students throughout the country to desist from such acts and take advantage of their school facilities to develop their talents adding, our nation needs trained manpower to shape the destiny of the revolution.

On agriculture, Gen Quiwonkpa said the nation's agricultural program should be based on maximum food production to feed the people, adding any nation which depends on foreign aid for its survival, is in absolute trouble.

The commanding general, who is accompanied by some senior PRC members, expressed gratitude to the citizens of Nimba County for their kind gesture, which he described as a support for government's efforts to create a new Liberian society.

In his remark, Nimba County superintendent, Capt (Mabejin Seyn) thanked General Quiwonkpa and members of his delegation for the visit and called for a thorough scrutiny of certain people in the PRC Government, who, he said, portray and reflect the characteristics for which the Tolbert government was overthrown.

MALI

IDA GRANTS LOAN TO ESTIMATE OIL POTENTIAL

AB171001 Paris AFP in French 1831 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] Bamako, 16 May (AFP)--The International Development Agency (IDA) has granted a loan of $3.7 million to Mali to finance the project to estimate Mali's oil production potential. According to the IDA communique published in Bamako, this loan will enable Mali to finance the technical aid necessary for prospecting activities.

The communique points out that the loan is to finance investigation of the Schist oil beds in order to make it possible to draw up a national energy policy.

The communique points out that the project will concentrate its research in two areas in Mali. [Words indistinct] that is in Taoudenni in the desertic northern central region of Mali, where according to investigations the best prospects for the discovery of oil exist. The project will extend over a 3-year period.

NIGERIA

SOLDIERS KILLED BY CAMEROONIAN TROOPS ON BORDER

AB182211 Lagos Domestic in English 2100 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] At a news conference in Lagos today, the minister for external affairs, Prof Ishaya Audu, spoke on an incident on the Nigeria-Cameroon border, during which some Nigerian soldiers lost their lives. Here now is the full text of the statement as read by the minister.

[Begin recording] I invited you to come this afternoon because of a very serious development on the Nigeria-Cameroon border, in the southeastern state of Nigeria. I am sure you are aware that there have been minor skirmishes from time to time at this border between Nigerian and Cameroonian functionaries and people. Nigeria has always, in the spirit of good neighborliness, done all it could to enhance peace and stability in this region. In fact the visit by our president earlier this year to the Cameroon was part of the exercise of defusing the tension along this border and generally trying to settle issues by peaceful measures.

A few days ago, however, the situation took a different turn. This time, it is a Nigerian village in Cross River State, well within the Nigerian territory and separated from the Cameroon border by the Akai Ate River. The Nigerian Armed Forces frequently patrolled the area up and down the river in the performance of their regular statutory duties of protecting Nigeria's borders. Nigerian patrol boats have often sighted Cameroon people guarding their own side of the border without incidents so far.

However on 15 May 1981, that is a day before yesterday, while returning northwest of the village at Itan following a night patrol duty, at precisely 0855, a platoon of Nigerian soldiers in two patrol boats were fired upon by a Cameroonian patrol boat coming in the opposite direction. Five Nigerian soldiers, including a commissioned officer, were killed in the first patrol boat and three others seriously wounded.

And here I will like to very quickly demonstrate the photographs of the bodies of the deceased Nigerians that were murdered in this exercise. These are the bodies of the five Nigerian soldiers that were killed and I have here some of the seriously injured ones in hospital being attended to in the (?emergency) ward by the nursing staff.

While the Nigerian troops in the second boat were assisting their injured colleagues--obviously they took that as their first line of responsibility--the Cameroonians fled away from the scene. The Nigerian Government, the Federal Government, after appropriate investigations to ascertain the verity of what has happened, has sent a very strong note of protest to the Cameroon Government, demanding an unqualified apology within a week, apprehension and proper punishment of the murderers as well as payment of full compensation and reparation to the families of the bereaved Nigerians. In the event of failure of appropriate action by the government to the satisfaction of the Federal Government, the Federal Government reserves the right to take what action it considers appropriate to protect the lives and properties of Nigerian citizens. In the meantime, we are reporting the matter to the OAU, but the situation is quite clear: We can no longer tolerate any further, [as heard] and we demand action on this as a start. [end recording]

STUDENTS PROTEST AGAINST U.S. POLICY 14 MAY

AB151719 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 15 May 81

[press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY SKETCH reports that students of the Nigerian Institute of Journalism yesterday staged a peaceful protest against U.S. policy on apartheid. The paper gathers that the students burned President Ronald Reagan's effigy to lend weight to their protest. The SKETCH says that the students want the total freedom of Africa now.

COMMENTARY DENOUNCES OIL SUPPLIES TO SOUTH AFRICA

AB181240 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 18 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Iranian oil minister, Mr Hasan Sadat, [title as heard], stated last week that his country will not allow the sale of Iranian oil to racist South Africa. He gave the assurance in Lagos at the end of a 2-day official visit to Nigeria. The Iranian minister stated that his country was strictly opposed to the racist policies of the Pretoria regime and will maintain an oil embargo on South Africa.

Mr Sadat also called on other members of the OPEC to adhere strictly to all resolutions of the organization in this regard. He further disclosed the submission to OPEC of the recommendations that the price of natural gas be equated with crude oil. Under the present arrangement, the price of gas is equated with refined petroleum. On the price of oil itself, Mr Sadat appealed to OPEC member states to collectively resist Saudi Arabia's attempt to further reduce the prices of petroleum products in response to the demands of the Western industrialized nations.

The assurance that the racist regime in Pretoria will no longer have access to Iranian oil supplies is a welcome development. It will be recalled that Iran had previously been the only OPEC member state that refused to comply with the organization's oil embargo against South Africa. But that was during the reign of the late shah, Mohammed Pahlavi. For instance, between 1973 and 1979, Iran supplied 90 percent of South Africa's oil requirements. It is a well-known fact that in spite of the OPEC embargo, South Africa continues to obtain the oil imports it requires.

A recent report released in Europe by the Shipping Research Bureau, cited Western oil companies as the carriers of oil to South Africa. Mobil Oil, Exxon, Shell and British Petroleum as well as Texaco, Caltex and Total were specifically mentioned in the report. The Middle East countries involved at the departure of supertankers bound for South Africa were mentioned are Saudi Arabia, 12 tankers; Oman, 6 tankers; Post-revolution Iran, 2 tankers; Libya and the United Arab Countries, 2 tankers each.

The report identifies Britain, the United States and Norway as the principal owners of the tankers involved in the clandestine trade. Shell, Mobile and Texaco owned or chartered one-third of the 50 tankers calling on South African ports in the 15-month period covered by the report. The Norwegian Government has regrettably confirmed the accuracy of the bureau's report. This was in a letter addressed to Mr Akporode Clark, Nigeria's ambassador to the United Nations and the chairman of the world body's special committee against apartheid. The reports of the Shipping [Research] Bureau, which is a foundation established last year by two Dutch organizations--the (Yoland) Committee on Southern Africa and the Working Group (?guild), both long standing antiapartheid organizations--is quite revealing. It greatly underscores the point made by the Iranian oil minister in his Lagos statement that OPEC nations should abide strictly by resolutions of the organization concerning the oil embargo on South Africa. That will be the most effective means by which the clandestine and despicable activities of the Western multinational oil companies can be curtailed.

It will be a sad commentary to state that most oil producing nations which are genuinely opposed to the racist regime in Pretoria are inadvertently aiding the supply of oil to South Africa by not complying strictly with OPEC resolutions. As for Western countries like Britain, the United States and Norway, it might be convenient to claim that there is no governmental regulations of multinational companies. The Federal Government of Nigeria has made it clear, often enough, that it would utilize all available resources at its disposal, including the oil weapon, in the fight against apartheid and racism in southern Africa. The British are likely to understand what that language entails as it is not farfetched that British petroleum experience can be comfortably repeated by the [Nigerian] government. In this effort, the government needs the overwhelming support of the people.

NLC MAY RESUME STRIKE UNLESS ASSEMBLY ACTS

AB181727 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] The meeting of the Nigerian Labor Congress [NLC] and the Senate Labor Committee continued today. At the resumed talks, the NLC president, Alhaji Hassan Sunmonu, warned that the National Assembly must not joke with the deadline to legislate on a national minimum wage. If it fails to do so, the NLC president said, the congress might have to resume the general strike it called off last week Tuesday. He said that the strike was called off only in the interest of the nation. Advancing reasons to justify the demand for 300 naira minimum wage, he said that an average worker will have to feed his family with 105 naira while he has to pay 50 naira for a two-room apartment. According to Alhaji Sunmonu, transportation will take 30 naira, life 15 naira, health [word indistinct] 10 naira.

A Radio Nigeria National Assembly correspondent reports that at today's meeting, the committee had expressed the feeling that 30 days would not be sufficient to deal with the matter.

KANO POLICE SEIZE CONSIGNMENT OF WEAPONS

AB151600 Lagos International Service in English 1230 GMT 15 May 81

[Text] The police in Kano have intercepted a consignment of weapons on the Bichi-Kano Road. The acting commissioner of police for the state, Mr J.O. Ferguson, told newsmen in his office that the arms were cleverly concealed in sugar cartons. He said more than 1,200 daggers and knives were among the weapons seized. Mr Ferguson warned that his command would deal ruthlessly with anybody caught in the arms trade, no matter his position in the society.

BRIEFS

TRAINING SHIP FROM JAPAN--Japan has made a gift of a training and research ship to the Nigerian Institute of Oceanography and Marine Research under its International Cooperation Agency aid program. The vessel, which is valued at more than 2.5 million naira, will be delivered in November this year. This was disclosed in Lagos today by the principal of the institute. [Excerpt] [Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 14 May 81 AB]

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS ON U.S. MEETINGS

LD181146 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 18 May 81

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roldef Botha, reported to the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, in Pretoria this morning on his visit to the United States and his talks with American leaders on various matters, including the South-West African question. On his return from Washington yesterday, Mr Botha said he had found that the new American administration had a greater grasp of the problems and realities of southern Africa. Mr Botha said his talks with the American secretary of state, Gen Alexander Haig, and later with President Ronald Reagan, on the South-West African question had not been an attempt to resolve differences but just to ensure that negotiations continued. Possible alterations to UN Resolution 435 for South-West Africa had been the basis for the talks. Because of the delicacy of the situation he could not give details of the proposed alterations however.

Radio RSA's political correspondent says Mr Botha's report will probably receive priority attention at the weekly cabinet meeting in Pretoria tomorrow, and the South African Government's reaction to American proposals will be conveyed to the U.S. Government afterwards.

JOHANNESBURG PRAISES PRETORIA-WASHINGTON RELATIONS

LD181246 Johnannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 18 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The statements by South Africa's prime minister in Cape Town on Saturday and the foreign minister's discussions last week in Washington, culminating in a meeting with President Reagan, open a prospect for southern Africa more promising than any since the end of the colonial era. It is based on what is now explicit: the shared interest between the Reagan and Botha administrations in a stable and cooperative subcontinent underpinned by a constructive relationship between the republic and its neighbors. In Cape Town, the prime minister reaffirmed his government's commitment to promoting the well-being of southern Africa as a whole. It's aim, he said, was to improve the quality of life of all the inhabitants of the region, of which South Africa was an integral and inseparable part. He also offered to hold talks with each and every one of South Africa's neighbor states which was genuinely concerned for peace in the subcontinent and which preferred consultation to confrontation.

In Washington, the exchange of views between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Foreign Minister Pik Botha covered South-West Africa, the southern African situation and the Reagan administration's international policies. From Washington's point of view, these are inextricably interlinked issues. It sees an acceptable settlement in South-West Africa as the precondition for stability in the subcontinent. And it sees a stable subcontinent as necessary to its global objective of containing Soviet expansionism and to securing its access to indispensable raw materials. When the talks and been completed, Mr Botha said he now saw a very real possibility of progress towards negotiating an end to South African control over South-West Africa within the framework set out by the secretary of state; more generally, he referred to his clearer concept of the potential for better understanding between our governments on a number of issues. For his part, General Haig declared that he was very, very pleased with the outcome of these discussions. Thereafter, Mr Botha met President Reagan.

That serious difficulties remain in the American-South African relationship was conceded by Mr Botha, but what has been clearly demonstrated by the prime minister's statement in Cape Town and the Washington meeting is the convergence of American and South African interests. And the point of convergence is an orderly and progressive southern Africa.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA CALLS FOR CLOSER TIES WITH SAUDI ARABIA

LD181008 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 May 81 CA

[Text] President Kaunda has called for closer economic and trade ties between Saudi Arabia and Zambia. The president assured Saudi Arabian businessmen that their investments in Zambia would be safe, as the country honors its pledges. Dr Kaunda reiterated his call for Saudi Arabian businessmen to invest in Zambia at a dinner he hosted at State House last night for visiting Saudi Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He described the visit by Prince Nayif to Zambia as a great service not only to Zambia but for Afro-Arab relations as well.

In reply, Prince 'Abd al-'Aziz said that (?Saudi Arabian) businessmen would be eager to invest in Zambia as long as the right conditions for such investment existed. The prince expressed the hope that his visit would be the beginning of efforts aimed at bringing solid cooperation between the two countries. He also expressed the desire to have Dr Kaunda visit Saudi Arabia in the future.

ZIMBABWE

SENATE APPROVES LANCASTER HOUSE ACCORD AMENDMENTS

LD151354 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0410 GMT 15 May 81 CA

[Text] The amendments to Zimbabwe's Lancaster House Constitution which were stalemated for 7 months in the House of Assembly passed their final hurdle in the Senate yesterday after being ratified by 28 votes to 6. This makes it clear for more black appointments in the three constitutional divisions: the Senate Legal Committee, the Public Service Commission and the Judicial Service Commission. Under the constitution the government needed at least 27 senators to support the constitutional amendment bill for it to be signed and passed into law by the president.

Defending criticisms of the constitutional amendment bill by members of the Rhodesian Front, the deputy minister of justice and constitutional affairs, Comrade Chidyausiku, said that the government is best qualified to choose when to make amendments and it is its prerogative to do so. Comrade Chidyausiku added that the government is better qualified to judge regarding its manpower and professional needs. He believes black and white Zimbabweans supported the government in its effort to get the amendments enacted. He was applaused when he pointed out that the government is Zimbabweanizing, adding that the only whites leaving the civil service are those brainwashed by the Rhodesian Front into thinking they cannot live under the present government. The minister added that the majority of white civil servants understand the government's policy.

One of the Rhodesian Front's chief legal spokesman during the UDI [Unilateral Declaration of Independence] period, Senator Sam Wheley, yesterday praised the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, and the government for what he called its proud record of noninterference with the judiciary since assuming power 13 months ago. Senator Whaley also praised the Zimbabwean Government record on appointments to the judiciary, although he opposed the constitutional amendment bill's provisions on the Judicial Service Commission. The bill gives the president, acting on the advice of the government, the right to appoint anyone to the commission who it is thought has adequate legal qualifications and experience.